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# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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THE American Library Association has had its first special meeting, which, although it directly accomplished nothing, will not be without influence in the future moulding of the association. It did not seem advisable under the circumstances of the present Congress to attempt the reincorporation proposed, which should make the American Library Association a national organization, recognized by the nation through act of Congress on the same plan with the American Historical Association. This is probably a desirable end, but it was the general opinion that the time was not yet ripe for this act, and that any action toward this end should be taken in full conference. While it should be to the interests of library development—and that means to the interest of all the people—that there should be a central library authority, nationally recognized, which might be called upon to furnish members of a board of visitors for the national and other governmental libraries and to report annually, or from time to time, upon library economy and library progress, the present time and circumstances did not seem auspicious for such reorganization, and the American Library Association could certainly not afford to put itself in the position of seeking aggrandizement for itself by a crusade in its own behalf. The special meeting was unanimous in this judgment. Under the constitution it was not possible to discuss other questions than that put forward in the call for the meeting, so that the proposal to appropriate \$500 for the use of the secretary in missionary effort, although it met with wide approval as well as with some criticism, could not be acted upon. The fact that President Brett, Secretary Hayes, Recorder Jones, and others serving the association, came to New York from distant cities at considerable expense in money as well as at the outlay of much time and inconvenience, emphasizes, however, the desirability of appropriation by the Association for the traveling and other expenses of those who serve it without remuneration.

NOT second in interest to this meeting of the A. L. A. itself was the union meeting of the New England associations by the invitation of the Connecticut Library Association at Hart-

ford in the same week. The meeting was a large one, despite unfavorable weather, bringing together 150 people interested in library advancement. It is evident that nothing, not even New England weather, as celebrated by Hartford's humorist, can daunt the enthusiasm of the library spirit; indeed, there is nothing more striking than the largeness and enthusiasm of any gathering of librarians. It was peculiarly gratifying at this meeting to have the report of co-operative methods among librarians in Hartford, which sets an especially valuable example to other cities in this respect, as well as in Providence, and the real significance of the meeting lay in the emphasis of this idea of co-operation for the benefit of readers and students among the libraries of a great city.

LIBRARIANS should not forget that there is pending before Congress a bill to extend and practically complete the reorganization of the system of government publications. Mr. Crandall's bill, dealing with the methods of publication of government issues, in the more technical sense of publication, is likely to be overlooked in the closing days of the session, unless members of Congress are reminded of its importance. Librarians should, therefore, write to their senators, urging the passage of the bill "to improve the printing and binding methods of the public documents," and should also urge early action in the matter on the senate committee on printing—Senators Hale, Hansbrough, and Gorman. This bill, though emanating from Mr. Crandall's office, is the joint result of the plans of Dr. Ames as well as of Mr. Crandall, and has the hearty support of all intelligently interested in government documents. The bill authorizing Dr. Ames to continue backward his "Comprehensive index" has passed the House and is pending in the Senate, but the general sentiment of the library profession regarding this bill is undoubtedly that expressed in the January JOURNAL. It is to be hoped that the provision for separating the copyright office from the Library of Congress will become a law, as one satisfactory feature of the general bill on the Library of Congress, however unsatisfactory may be the other features of this bill.

THE question of indexes, raised elsewhere by Mr. Tandy, is one of special interest and importance to librarians, and the suggestions put forward by him for organized library effort toward better and more plentiful indexes are well worthy of support and discussion. Among the minor woes of librarians indexless books are ever present, and there is no class of workers to whom thorough and systematic indexes are more useful. Of late years publishers have come to recognize more fully the added value of a well-indexed volume, but there is still wide room for improvement in this direction. Only too often books are published, the usefulness of which would be practically doubled by a good index. Prof. Bandelier's important work, "The gilded man," was one of the most striking examples of the sort, and a very recent instance is found in the collection of "Myths and legends of our own land," by Charles M. Skinner—a mass of material that an adequate index would have rendered at least twice as useful. If all books of information were supplied with indexes and all index-makers were responsible over their own signatures for the merit of their work, the path to specific information on a subject would be a more direct and a less thorny one. A noteworthy step in this direction has been made by Dr. Eggleston in the initial volume of his important series in American history, "The beginners of a nation," wherein credit is given to the maker of the index as himself an author; but such examples of index appreciation, if it may be so termed, are rare indeed. Capital service in the cause of adequate indexes is done in the *Dial*, where Mr. Thwaites in his reviews of current historical literature gives special critical emphasis to their importance, and the *Nation* is always a consistent champion of indexes. If these examples were followed by the majority of reviewers it would not be long before publishers generally realized that a good index is the necessary corollary of a good book. And there is no reason to doubt that a similar result might be effected through a well-organized and persistent "library movement" toward the same end, such as Mr. Tandy urges. At any rate, it is well worth trying.

NEW ORLEANS gives the first contribution to the library-founding record of 1897. In the Fisk Free and Public Library, formally inaugurated last month, that city establishes its first free circulating library, and establishes it in such a manner as to insure systematic growth

and wide usefulness. The process of evolution whereby subscription or endowed libraries at last find their true place as free public libraries has more than once been referred to in these columns. This principle finds, in a measure, fresh illustration in New Orleans, where three separate collections, each useful but limited in its scope, have been merged into one effective organization, supported by the people for themselves. Perhaps the most gratifying feature of the change was the rapidity with which it was accomplished and the hearty co-operation that the project received from its very inception. Nothing could indicate more clearly the sure and steady growth of public appreciation of the part a public library should play in the life of a city, and in the Fisk Free and Public Library it is not difficult to see an entering wedge of free library development in the South. Nor are these signs of the times confined to New Orleans. In Galveston the Rosenberg bequest promises to soon take substantial form as a free public library, while in Georgia the proposed library commission bill has good prospect of passage by the coming legislature. A southern conference of the American Library Association should be directly effective in furthering the good work, and the suggestion made at Cleveland and elsewhere that the conference of 1898 be held in Atlanta should have serious consideration at the Philadelphia meeting.

### Communications.

#### CIVIL SERVICE METHODS IN LIBRARIES.— A CORRECTION.

IN the LIBRARY JOURNAL for January I find myself reported as testifying before the Committee of Congress on the Library that I did not favor the application of civil service methods to the employment of assistants in that library. That is a mistake. I am a civil service reformer and intended to be understood unequivocally to favor the extension of civil service principles to the national library.

W. I. FLETCHER.

AMHERST COLLEGE LIBRARY, }  
AMHERST, MASS.

#### BOOKS FOR DISTRIBUTION.—NOTICE TO LIBRARIANS.

DR. CHARLES C. P. CLARK, author of "The commonwealth reconstructed," New York, 1878, 216 pages, octavo, has placed the remainder of the edition in our hands for distribution. A copy of it will be sent to any library on receipt of 12 cents (\$.12) to cover cost of mailing.

GEO. H. BAKER.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, }  
NEW YORK CITY.



## WHAT MAY A LIBRARIAN DO TO INFLUENCE THE READING OF A COMMUNITY?

BY A. L. PECK, *Librarian Gloversville (N. Y.) Free Library.*

HAVING had opportunity to observe, with some care and certainly with keen interest, the expectations which communities have as soon as it is reported that a library is to be founded, I have made an effort to watch how far these expectations are realized, how far they are disappointed, and in what respect the results possibly exceed every expectation. In a great many cases these expectations become so fixed that they have been changed into demands upon the library, as soon as the library is established.

I still recall, with some quiet delight, that on the day after a certain gentleman had promised to found a library, some anxious readers immediately inquired when the books would be ready for delivery, and the feverish haste with which the public at large expected to use these books would have led one to believe that as soon as the library was open the demands for books would be so great that a reasonable supply would be impossible. People in the street would say that the library would close the saloons; others would say, like Franklin, "It will improve manners." Older men who never expected to use the library themselves anticipated great benefit for their sons and grandsons. Generally it was maintained that the library would improve the intellectual taste of the public and change entirely the character of reading of the community. When the books arrived young and old hastened to the library to help the librarian in unpacking the cases, and were offended when such assistance was promptly and seriously refused. When the doors of the library were almost hermetically sealed, in order to give the librarian and his assistants an opportunity to catalog the books, it aroused public anger to such an extent that the people inquired whether the librarian meant to read the books before they were permitted to handle them. And so it went on through four weary months, during which time between 3000 and 4000 books were prepared for library use. When finally the books were ready for delivery the former eager readers drew 57 books on the first day. And so the true function of the library began; first, to find readers; second, to make the library agreeable and pleasant to these; third, to keep readers in

the habit of coming; fourth, to make the library useful to all; and fifth, to make an effort to improve the general character of reading. And after many years of hard and persevering work, on the part both of the trustees and the librarian, the library has increased in usefulness, and, it may be said, meets some of the expectations which its friends had anticipated before it was properly organized and opened to the public.

It is, however, not the object of this paper to discuss fully in what regard the public library meets the expectations of the community that maintains it. An attempt at this would simply lead to the compilation of a library manual and not to a condensed statement of what a library may do regarding the improvement of the literary taste, not only of its particular readers, or of any class thereof, but of the community in general.

While no one will question that the development of a taste for good literature is one of the functions of the public library, it would be wise not to speak of this function too loudly, as the individual readers as well as the community might take offence at any such attempt. And still it cannot be denied that the public library does improve the healthy tone of reading in the community at large. Whether this can be done successfully must in each case depend upon local circumstances, upon the tact and personal exertion of those in charge of the library.

Efforts toward the improvement in the quality of reading may be grouped under the following heads: first, efforts for the individual reader; second, for classes of readers; thirdly, for the community at large, also naturally including those who never come to the library.

First, then, as to individual readers: In order to be able to influence the individual reader it is necessary that those who wish to exert this influence shall first gain the confidence of those they wish to guide. This guidance must be free from prejudice and cant, and must spring apparently from no other source than a personal interest in the individual patron of the library. We can gain the confidence of children most readily, most surely, by bringing them in contact with such books as are known

to us to interest children. The less there is said about these matters to the child himself the better. Here is Johnnie, who reads nothing but Alger books, and you are anxious for his own sake that he should read something better. While you may be compelled to give him his Alger book, because he claims that he has a right to get what he wants, still show him one or two, or a few books which you consider better. If you do not succeed at first, do not give up the case as hopeless, but patiently give him your attention, try to lure him away from his idols. Ask yourself, "What does he like in the Alger books?" The answer is simply that he likes to read about real boys and their success. It is success and wealth that attract him, and he dreams that his career may be similar. The Trowbridge, the Kellogg, and the Kaler books will be readily accepted as substitutes. If he wants stories of school-boys, you may not at first succeed in getting him to read "Tom Brown," but give him some other books about schools and school-boys. If he is in search of adventures, give him Ballantyne and some of the earlier Reid books, the Henty books, or give him Du Chailu. I could always interest boys in "Lost in the jungle."

If your friend be one of the girls who seem to be wedded to "Elsie"—which, by the way, is a very serious case—make an effort to induce her to read the "Little women" series, some of the books of Joanna Matthews, the "Katy" books by Susan Coolidge, the "Witch Winnie" and the "Hildegard" books, and others.

The main thing is that neither should know you have intentions to change his or her reading-matter, and the next thing that he or she should become acquainted with other books. The change must come from the young people and not from the library official. As soon as they think that the library official wishes to make a change they suspect that it is done from selfish motives. I have heard it often said that these things are done for the effect in the annual report, and others would say that this is "what they are paid for." It is also my sincere belief that in small libraries the librarian himself should take the greatest interest in his juvenile borrowers, and, as much as possible, give them his own personal attention. In the large libraries, naturally, means will be provided to engage a suitable person for such work. We all know that this has been done

already, and I need only to mention the excellent work which Miss Stearns is doing for the children in Milwaukee.

The effort to guide the reading of grown-up persons requires still greater care and tact. Here, in fact, nothing but direct interest in the borrower will lead to success. If you can tell Mr. A that you have a book in the library which you know that he would like, and if his expectations of the book are realized, he will always remember it gratefully, and the first step toward gaining his confidence will have been made.

If there are a large number of workingmen among the users of the library, you will gain their confidence by placing in their hands such books as will naturally interest and benefit them in their trade. In such a manner a mutual personal relation between library and reader is established, and it will be found that such relations will be lasting and fruitful in their results.

Even the inveterate novel-reader must be treated with due consideration, and he or she will gratefully accept the better novel for the good—only be sure that it is really a better novel, that is to say, more suitable for the person who is to read it.

I presume all these efforts for advancing and improving the character of reading by personal attention are more feasible in a small library than in a very large one. But each library willing to fill its mission will find some persons who can be guided and influenced.

Efforts to influence a large number of readers to better appreciation and use of the library will first consist in the co-operation of library and school. There has been a great deal written and said about this, and bibliothecal literature suggests various ways in which libraries have made themselves useful to the public schools. A word, however, may be allowed in this connection about the library influencing teachers. While it would be unwise for the librarian or his assistants to try to direct the teachers' general reading, the teacher does not and cannot know the resources of the library in advancing his interests as a teacher in his individual school. Here personal acquaintance with the teacher is the only remedy. The catalogs and lists may be ever so well arranged, and cross-references and notes may be scholarly and explicit; still the majority of teachers will be at loss what to ask for, where to find just exactly what

they want. Even if admitted to the shelves, the large number of books will bewilder them, and the natural limit of time will prevent a very careful selection. And only direct personal influence, with a knowledge of the school curriculum on the one hand and a knowledge of the resources of the educational department of the library on the other, will bring the right book in the right hands at the right time.

If you cannot influence the teachers in your school, make yourself acquainted with the superintendent and principal. Find out what they expect of their teachers and of the school, and the influence of the superintendent and principal will be with you in each case, and in a short time you will find that the teachers will use the library systematically and to mutual benefit of all parties concerned, namely, teacher, school, and library.

To improve the general character of reading of larger groups of readers, the librarian must take an active interest in all societies that are formed for mutual improvement by study and research. I recall when the library which I have the honor to represent contained only a few thousand volumes (it is not very large now) that it was very difficult to aid and direct study classes, reading circles, and debating clubs in their work, and after careful investigation I came to the conclusion that the only way in which a small library can make itself felt in these societies and be of use to them is by influencing the topic or program committee to compile their programs at the library, and thus instead of asking afterward for what the library has not, make use of the books which the library has, no matter how few.

The next step in the directing to good literature is the effort of the library to furnish information on such topics as are of current interest. If America is interested in Venezuela let the library make it known through the local papers and through special lists that it has books on this subject. If Cuba is the topic of the day, let the same thing be done for Cuba. If currency is the all-absorbing subject, have all pamphlets and magazine articles at your disposal that will give information on both sides of the question, and you will find that without any further efforts the public at large will make use of the library in other ways than for recreation only.

A word might be said regarding the recreative reading furnished by the library. It is an acknowledged fact that a large proportion of

the books issued by public libraries is popular fiction. This is only proper, and here the library may exert a healthful influence by guiding unconsciously the readers to the very best kind of fiction, simply by constantly bringing the very best novels before them for selection. I believe it is far better, instead of admitting the so-called "novel fiend" to the shelves, where he or she will only be embarrassed by the large number, to keep near to the delivery-desk a number of carefully-selected novels and hand these to any reader who is willing to select from books. In this manner, without giving offence, the character of the reading of this class of readers will gradually be improved.

The compilation, and if possible, the publication, either through the daily press or otherwise, of lists of good books, be they new or old, will bring before the eye, not only of the user of the library but the public at large, the best books in the various departments of literature that the library contains.

But what can the library do for those hundreds of readers who never come near it, and are, as it were, beyond its influence? There is one thing certain, that a large majority of those who do not use the library are buying literature of some kind or another. Curious to observe this, I once spent a Saturday evening in one of the local book-stores in order to see what is bought and who buys reading-matter. This reading-matter varied from the *Police News* up to the fashion paper, from the Beadle novel through all the grades of paper-covered novels up to George Eliot's "Romola." And here the problem presented itself to me: What can we do to reach these readers?

Soon after I called upon the book-dealers of the place, and offered them the use of our trade literature, and in this manner making the library useful to the local book trade, I called their attention to the fact that if they were willing to co-operate with the library they certainly could improve the character of reading; first, by bringing before their customers the best class of periodicals only, and by calling their attention to the best and newest books. Whenever a good book is published, and I anticipate the demand for it to become quite large, I inform the local dealers of such works, and in this manner those that do not use the library virtually come within its influence. Last year a prominent merchant selected at the library his Christmas stock of literature for his department store.

As far as it came under my observation, I am led to believe that since the establishment of the library in our place the public at large have purchased more and better books than they ever did before. I know that there have been placed in our city outside of the library five complete sets of Duruy's histories of Rome and Greece, de luxe edition; over 200 sets of cyclopædias; excellent editions of Ruskin, Hugo, Dumas, Scott; also de luxe editions of the Riverside classics, and a large number of valuable illustrated books on art and books of reference; which purchases would never have been made had it not been for the quiet elevating influence of the library.

While I have no means of ascertaining how far similar work can be done by libraries in large cities, I recall that Mr. Hild, of the Chicago Public Library, has made similar state-

ments of the work and influence of his excellent library.

There is one thing certain, that the librarian and his staff are responsible for the success or failure of this influence. If the librarian will sit still in his chair and allow the public simply to help themselves, but very little of this work will be done. But with a librarian willing to do his duty, and with faithful assistants, wide awake to their possibilities, and sympathizing with the reader and with the interests of the community, a great deal can be accomplished.

In conclusion, but one more remark, and that is, no matter how well, no matter how faithfully the work may be done, there always remains more to be done. Let us hope that to-morrow will be better than to-day, and the future brighter than the past.

#### THE LIBRARIAN AND THE PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES.

BY ANGELINE SCOTT, *Public Library, South Norwalk, Ct.*

AMONG the many questions brought for solution to the public library, there is one class of inquiries on which the librarian is prone—and fairly—to look askance.

The real student who uses books with a workman's knowledge of his tools, or the ignorant but eager seeker of information who has to be guided along the highways and byways of research, never fail of a cordial welcome; but the prize-question people who wish to find out "Which president's mother has a famous living namesake?" or "Which president's father was a sexton?" and the man who has just begun to take an interest in his grandfathers, are not as welcome visitors to the library. The expert genealogist is the keenest witted of men in unearthing what he wants; but an awful record of valuable time misused is written against the people who persist in first recounting what they know about their forebears and then extracting unwilling labor from a busy librarian in order to glean scanty information about some ancestor unknown to fame. Undoubtedly the historical activities of such a person may be traced to one of the patriotic societies which make Colonial or Revolutionary or 1812 ancestry a condition of membership; and, if the information we procure for this inquirer simply makes him think more highly of himself than he ought to think, and serves no educational purpose, we

may well shift the burden of such work on other shoulders.

But there is another side to the question. Quoting from the historical sketch of one such society, concerning its object: "A spirit of reverence for American traditions seized many minds within the last few years, which became embodied in the organizations of the descendants of American patriots; with the object of saving such precious relics, traditions, records, and associations with particular places as might be preserved." Here is where the public library and the patriotic society meet on common ground. The merely personal interest unlocks an unused door into the past and often discloses a surprising amount of local history in miniature. Sometimes a man who has utterly lacked public spirit comes to be very proud of his birthplace when he studies the old records and neglected histories for some personal reason; and out of this newly-kindled respect, is led to make the town some memorial gift; perhaps a library building, a collection of Americana, an historical museum. The school-boy is stimulated by what he learns in competing for the prize essay written for the Sons of the American Revolution, to begin reading history with a more vivid sense of its reality. The thought of Indians here in Connecticut and the traces left of them prove to him as interesting as the modern Indian of the



plains; so that, beginning at home, his interest extends to the general condition of the country at a given period and the relation of that period to the history of the nation.

It seems as if the patriotic societies should be valuable allies in strengthening the public library in the department of local history.

The importance of this department is emphasized by Justin Winsor, R. G. Thwaites, and W. R. Cutter, whose personal experiences have entitled them to speak of the value of local collections of manuscripts, documents, deeds, correspondence, and ephemeral pamphlets. Mr. Cutter exhorts the librarian to collect exhaustively and to save tenaciously every book, pamphlet, map, or scrap of printed matter relating to the town. Mr. Thwaites has the daily and weekly papers scanned at odd minutes for historical material by the attendant at the book-counter of the Wisconsin State Historical Library.

Another task commended to the attention of librarians is that of making a bibliography of local history, books written about the town or containing allusions to it, pamphlets with addresses, sermons, etc., not forgetting the press of the town. In Woburn, Mass., a very valuable collection of original matter has been gathered, including lists of Revolutionary soldiers and old deeds which have been of much service in tracing the descent of property. A former town clerk, a postmaster, and a physician accumulated the mass of material, which Mr. W. R. Cutter has indexed and made available for reference.\*

All of these expedients for collecting local history require a good deal of watchful labor, and the enthusiasm of the hobbyist would be invaluable in discovering the hiding-places of the old papers and relics and in cataloging them. Somebody must tactfully induce people to give such material to the library, and how can the librarian undertake so much extra work unaided?

Here comes in the utility of the patriotic society to the library. Many of the societies do not have libraries belonging to their organizations, and the interested members might do nearly all of the work of collecting and classifying the material if the librarian would provide for its preservation and suggest the working methods. In one instance the Daughters of the American Revolution aimed to have, some day,

an historical library, and began the accumulation of books on local and state history. They placed their bookcase in the public library, where the books may be used for reference until the society is able to support a chapter library. Where there is an assembly-room connected with the library, the societies might repeat, for the general public, interesting programs which had been prepared for the chapter meetings. It would also be possible to arrange loan exhibits of colonial pottery, silver, furniture, and the like, if the library has an available room for the purpose. Articles exhibited should be labelled in such a way as to lead those interested to the books in the library, which would give more information about them.

The chief difficulty reported from a large number of librarians who have made an effort along these lines, is the apathy of the public which might supply the material wanted for local history. The alert librarian needs no urging to undertake the development of this department of library work, if he is encouraged by gifts which need to be cared for.

At some time when the library has been useful to a local patriotic society in providing genealogical and historical data, while the members of it are holding the service in grateful remembrance, let the librarian show the society how much good historical work it may do for the library.

Excepting books (and not always excepting them) the material should be given the library so that the ordinary funds may not be diverted from the purchase of books in general and constant demand. This is the implied criticism of the "Plea for local history" in the proposed "Library primer"; while it commends in a rather half-hearted way, it must be confessed, the bringing of societies organized for the purpose of collecting historical material into co-operative relations with the library. Mr. Thwaites has entered a vigorous protest against slighting local history by inference in the "Primer," which was published in *Public Libraries*, June, 1896; and in closing he insists that the librarian of a community is best equipped for this task. In the one department of the history and bibliography of its own locality it is possible for the smallest country library to excel the great metropolitan library—all of which only places the responsibility of accomplishing the work on the librarian; and if he can enlist the assistance of whatever historical and patriotic societies exist in his town, so much the better.

\* In the LIBRARY JOURNAL of May, 1896, Mr. Cutter describes a method he has devised for a genealogical index in the form of a card catalog.



### THE GATHERING OF LOCAL HISTORY MATERIALS BY PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

AT the Ashland meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association, held Nov. 13, 1896, R. G. Thwaites, secretary of the Wisconsin Historical Society, and one of the members of the state free library commission, spoke on "The gathering of local history materials by public libraries." His remarks were so practically useful in scope and subject, that a brief synopsis of the address is here given to a wider audience than that to which it was originally presented.

There is always a deep and general popular interest in old pamphlets, newspaper files, and the odds and ends of printed matter issued in ephemeral form, provided they are old enough to have ceased to be commonplace. That with which we are all familiar is commonplace, and generally held in slight value; but the commonplaces of one generation are the treasured relics of the next. It is not mere idle curiosity, this interest of ours in the things with which our fathers were familiar. Relics in museums enable us more accurately in imagination to re-dress the stage of history; but the literary ephemera of other days, preserved in libraries, are still more valuable as mirrors of the past. The chance advertisement in the old newspaper, the tattered playbill, the quaintly-phrased pamphlet, or musty diary or letter of a former time, mean more to the modern historian than any other form of historical record. In earlier days history was thought to be simply the doings of monarchs and the conduct of campaigns; but Macaulay and Green have shown us that the history of the people is what benefits us most—how John and Mary lived in their wayside cottage, how Peter and Paul bargained in the market-place, how the literati toiled in Grub street, and how seafarers journeyed over the face of the deep.

Recently Woodrow Wilson said, at the Princeton sesqui-centennial: "The world's memory must be kept alive, or we shall never see an end of its old mistakes. We are in danger to become infantile in every generation. This is the real menace under which we cower in this age of change." It is the office of the historian to keep the world's history alive. There will never be an end of the writing of history. Some one has truly said, each generation must write all past history afresh, from its own changing standpoint. But that this may continue, and with increasing advantage, there must never be an end of accumulating historical material; each generation must accumulate its own, for the benefit of its successor.

In the libraries of the old world there are many magnificent collections of broadsides, leaflets, tracts, pamphlets, which earnest, thoughtful men have, in past generations, accumulated for our benefit. One of the most notable of these is the collection known as the Thomason Tracts, in the British Museum; 30,000 specimens of the literary flotsam and

jetsam of the middle of the 17th century—pamphlets, circulars, prospectuses, broadsides, programs, and what not—each one carefully labelled by the industrious London bookseller, Thomason, with the date of its acquisition. Thus we have, for the entire period of the civil war in England, a faithful day-by-day picture of surpassing interest and value, to which historians are ever turning as to an inexhaustible mine of material, and concerning which Macaulay and a host of others have recorded words of the warmest praise.

In olden times enterprises of this character were left to the chance of individual initiative. To-day they may be better, more systematically done by public librarians. It is not possible, nor is it advisable, for every public library to engage in a task of this character upon any extended scale. It is sufficient that a few great libraries undertake missions of this sort—libraries, perhaps, in widely-separated cities—but certain it is that each public library can and should make collections of this character for its own community, and the library at the county seat should seek to cover so far as may be its own county.

In specifying what the local library should make a serious business of collecting, Mr. Thwaites laid special stress upon newspaper files, the daily or weekly mirror of the community's life; and these files should, if possible, be complete back to the beginning. He urged that all manner of published reports be obtained—of the common council, the county board of supervisors, the various public institutions located in the community; the published memorial sermons, society year-books, printed rules and constitutions of local lodges, catalogs and programs of local colleges and academies, published addresses of every sort; any manner of literature published by the churches, whether in the form of papers, membership lists, appeals for aid, or what not; programs of local musicales, concerts, veteran camp-fires, etc., would be found in time to have great interest to the local historian. In fact, it is difficult to say what should not be collected, for all of this printed material will prove in due course of time to be a fund of information which shall make the library a Mecca for all who wish for any purpose to refresh their memory relative to the life of the town.

Just as we regard everything familiar as commonplace and worthless, do we delude ourselves with the notion that we and ours are to live always. Librarians should remember that this generation and its affairs are but passing phases of world-life; in due course what they have gathered of the literary driftwood of to-day will be of priceless value to their successors in office. All of us librarians are missionaries unto the present generation; but let us, in our zeal for present results, not forget to be as well missionaries unto the future, and thereby earn the praise which comes to him who plants a tree for the delectation of those who come after.

## BOOKS OF 1896. — I.

"THE best books of 1896 for a small library" were discussed and criticised at the meeting of the New York Library Association and the New York Library Club on Jan. 14. The session occupied the greater part of the afternoon, and was closely modelled on the A. L. A. catalog discussion at Cleveland. A provisional list of 489 of the leading books of 1896 had been prepared at the New York State Library, and copies were distributed to those present at the meeting. The various classes of literature were presented by different reviewers, who were, however, not limited in their choice to the printed list, to which additions were made by nearly every speaker. There was much less discussion than at the book discussion evening at Cleveland, but the session proved most interesting and suggestive. The development of these "book-talks" as a feature of library meetings within the past two years indicates that they possess a definite practical value to the librarian who must know what books to put in his library, and who has but little time in which to acquire that knowledge. It shows also that in addition to regarding the book from the outside, as an object to be classified, cataloged, labelled, and cared for, time can be well and profitably spared, in library meetings, to look upon it from within — as literature.

The following list gives the books in the divisions of Reference, Philosophy and ethics, Religion, Social science, Natural science and useful arts, and Fine art, as presented at the meeting, with brief comment by the reviewer. It will be followed in a succeeding issue by the books in the remaining classes.

## BOOKS OF REFERENCE.

Presented by W. T. Peoples, N. Y. Mercantile Library. A selection only of the titles listed by Mr. Peoples is given.

American book-prices current; comp. by L. S. Livingston. Dodd. *net*, \$6.

The arrangement comprises 7500 lots (106 sales) and is in one alphabet by author.

American catalogue of books recorded July 1, 1890, to June 30, 1895. pts. 1-4. Pub. Weekly. \$15.

Book-prices current. London, Stock. *net*, \$7.70.

Bowerman, G. Franklin, *comp.* Selected bibliography of the religious denominations of the U. S.; to which is added a list of the most important Catholic works of the world, comp. by J. H. McMahon. Cathedral Lib. Assoc. 75 c.

Gives in systematic form references to the best books on the history, doctrine, and polity of Am. churches, with publishers and prices.

Verzeichnis der im deutschen Buchhandel neu erschienenen u. neu auferlegten Bücher, Landkarten, Zeitschriften, etc., July-December, 1895, and January-June, 1896.

[Catalogue of books, etc., published in Germany from July-Dec., 1895, and Jan.-June, 1896.] Leipzig, Hinrichs. 7.70 m.

A complete bibliography of German books for sale; each volume in two parts, 1st part an alphabetical list of authors, etc., 2d part subject index.

Cumulative index to selected list of periodicals. Cleveland Public Library. subs., \$5.

30 periodicals were indexed in 1896; in 1897 it is proposed to index 100.

Dalbiac, P. H. Dictionary of quotations (English), with author and subject indexes. Macmillan. \$2.

Dewey, Melvil, *ed.* Papers prepared for the World's Library Congress, held at the Columbian Exposition. (U. S. Bureau of Education reprint, whole no. 224.) Washington. n. p.

Griffin, A. P. C. Index of the literature of Am. local history in collections published in 1890-1895. Bost., Heintzman. \$5.

Harper's dictionary of classical literature and antiquities; *ed.* by Harry Thurston Peck. Harper. \$6.

The purpose of the book is to give the student, in a concise and intelligible form, the essential facts concerning those questions that oftenest arise in the study of the life, the literature, the religion, and the art of classical antiquity.

Journal of the Franklin Institute. Index to v. 121-140. Phila., Franklin Institute. \$1.50.

Supplements the general index to the first 120 v., published in 1890.

Koopman, Harry Lyman. The mastery of books. Am. Book Co. 90 c.

Containing why and how much to read, what to read, how to read; reference-books and periodicals, etc., etc.

Lueger, Otto. Lexicon der gesammten technik und ihrer hilfswissenschaften. v. 1-3. Stuttgart, Deutsche Verlagsanstalt. 30 m. per v.

A technical dictionary on industry, technology, and all useful arts.

Peabody Institute Library. Second catalog, incl. additions made since 1882. pt. 1, A-B. Baltimore, Peabody Inst.

Pirrie, V., *comp.* A technical dictionary of sea-terms, phrases and words in the Eng. and French languages. Scribner. \$2.

Quarterly Journal of economics. Index of writers and subjects, v. 1-10, 1886-96. Bost. Ellis. subs.

Sargent, Mary E. and Abby L. Supplement to "Reading for the young," by John F. Sargent. Library Bureau. \$1.

Scott, Temple, *ed.* Book sales of 1895. Lond., Cockrane. *net*, £12.6.

Comprises 5695 lots of books sold in London; single lots arranged alphabetically.

Taylor, I. Names and their histories. Macmillan. \$2.

An alphabetical arrangement as a handbook of historical geography and topographical nomenclature.

United States. Catalogue of the public documents of the 53d Congress and of all the departments of the government of the U. S. for the period from March 4, 1893-June 30, 1895; prepared under the supervision of the

Superintendent of Documents. Washington, Gov. Print. Office. n. p.  
 Wood, Katharine P., *comp.* Quotations for occasions. Century. \$1.50.  
 Arranged and indexed under subjects; the book contains about 2500 quotations, covering all parts of a dinner *menu*, and special selections for men's dinners, dances, etc.

## PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS.

Reviewed by E. C. Richardson, Princeton University.

Harris, G. Moral evolution. Houghton. \$2.  
 Hirsch, W. Genius and degeneration. Appleton. \$3.50.  
 Jordan, D. S. Care and culture of men. Whitaker. \$1.50.  
 Sully, James. Studies of childhood. Appleton. \$2.50.

These four books are first-class works by first-class authors, and are especially vouched for by Prof. Warren, of Princeton.

Bigelow, J. Mystery of sleep. Harper. \$1.50.  
 Horton, R. F. On the art of living together. Dodd. 50 c.

Whitney, Mrs. A. D. T. Friendly letters to girl friends. Houghton. \$1.25.

Undoubtedly good books for what they were intended. Mr. Bigelow's work has, perhaps, a little too much of the "mystery" part of its title; Dr. Horton's, while cleverly written, as usual, is, perhaps, no better than than some of his other works. These three books might be omitted from a library in order to admit three others which are more important than any previously noted. These are:

1. Weber, Alfr. History of philosophy; authorized tr. by F. Thilly. Scribner. *net*, \$2.50.

Valuable for every library, large or small; for subject-matter, arrangement, style, and readableness it is the best outline history of philosophy that we have in English.

2. Titchener, E. B. Outline of psychology. Macmillan. *net*, \$1.50.

Regarded as less readable than Weber, but the only really good up-to-date complete outline of the modern psychology, in which there has been so much change and progress of late. I find it exceedingly interesting as well.

3. Butler, Jos. Works; ed. by W. E. Gladstone. 2 v. Macmillan. *net*, \$7.

For form, arrangement, annotation, and especially for luminous paragraph headings which are inserted, it is a model edition, and is bound to be the standard one for libraries.

## RELIGION.

Reviewed by E. C. Richardson, Princeton University.

Abbott, Lyman. Christianity and social problems. Houghton. \$1.25.

Generally received as distinctly the best systematic attempt to show the direct bearing of Christ's life and teaching on social matters; scholarly, practicable, readable.

Abrahams, Israel. Jewish life in the Middle Ages. Macmillan. \$1.75.

Packed with valuable information.

Coyle, J. P. The spirit in literature and life. Houghton. \$1.50.

A stimulating book.

Dauids, T. W. R. Buddhism, its history and literature. Putnam. \$1.50.

Perhaps the best book on the science of religion during the year for use in general libraries; candid and careful.

Donald, E. W. Expansion of religion. Houghton. \$1.50.

Lectures; forcible, readable, brusque in style to the point of abruptness; belongs to liberal school.

Froude, J. A. Lectures on the Council of Trent. Scribner. \$2.

Necessary in every well-regulated library.

Moulton, R. G. Literary study of the Bible. Heath. \$2.

— and others. The Bible as literature. Crowell. \$1.50.

Moulton in his various works on the Bible as literature is doing important work, almost too well known to mention; his books are useful, though perhaps it is not necessary for the small library to have all of them.

Schurman, J. G. Agnosticism and religion. Scribner. \$1.

Interesting; unconservative.

Shields, C. W., and others. Church unity. Scribner. \$1.

Five lectures by men of different denominations.

Van Dyke, H. J. Gospel for an age of doubt. Macmillan. \$1.75.

Excellent from every point of view, and so excellent from a literary point of view as to make it doubly profitable.

Vincent, M. R. Age of Hildebrand. Christian Literature Co. \$1.50.

An example of historical work made interesting by an interesting style.

Watson, J. Cure of souls. Dodd. \$1.50.

— Mind of the Master. Dodd. \$1.50.

Both well written and practical; the former is exceedingly helpful, beyond most books of the sort, to theological students or ministers.

White, A. D. History of the warfare of science with theology in Christendom. 2 v. Appleton. \$5.

Unacceptable to the most orthodox, but shows less anti-religious and even anti-theological bias than Dr. White has sometimes been credited with, and is a valuable contribution.

The whole list in theology is good, and to none of the books listed can exception be taken. If any must be omitted to make room for others the following might be spared:

Farrar, F. W., and others. The Bible and the child. Macmillan. \$1.

Guerber, H. A. Legends of the Virgin and Christ. Dodd. \$1.50.

Ramsay, W. M. St. Paul. Putnam. \$3.

Additions to the list should include:

1. Fisher, G. P. History of Christian doctrine. Scribner. *net*, \$2.50.

A complete, comprehensive, judicious survey of the whole field in small compass.

2. Argyll, Duke of. Philosophy of belief. Scribner. \$5.

The crown of a series, and received by authorities as a very interesting book.

3. Byington, E. H. *The Puritan in England and New England*. Roberts. \$2.

Of special interest for New England libraries. Strong, T. B. *Christian ethics*. Longmans. \$5.

Hampton lectures for 1895; somewhat heavy; learned and powerful.

Speer, Rob. E. *Study of the man Christ Jesus*. Revell. 75 c.

Harris, S. *God the creator and lord of all*. Scribner. net, \$5.

Important and valuable, heavy in theme, interesting in treatment.

#### SOCIAL SCIENCE.

Reviewed by Prof. Franklin H. Giddings, Columbia University.

Bowmaker, E. *Housing of the working classes*. Scribner. \$1.

Belongs to the *Social science series*, a series of unequal merit, in which some valuable books and some poor ones have appeared. The fact that a book belongs to this series does not guarantee its merit. This book is well spoken of, but I have not read it.

Bridgman, R. L. *Biennial elections*. Heath. 50 c.

A good exposition of a special subject, though not of general interest.

Commons, J. R. *Proportional representation*. Crowell. \$1.75.

An excellent presentation of the subject. Cowles, J. L. *A general freight and passenger post*. Putnam. 75 c.

A treatise too special in character to be generally needed by libraries.

Cunningham, W. *Modern civilization in some of its economic aspects*. Scribner. \$1.

Good on superficial aspects of the subject.

Dickinson, G. L. *Development of Parliament during the 19th century*. Longman's. \$2.50.

A useful book on a subject that is naturally of limited interest; necessary to a library.

Dixon, F. H. *State railroad control, with a history of its development in Iowa*. Crowell. \$1.75.

Useful; but so special in its relation to a single state as to make it of less general value.

Ede, W. M. *Attitude of the church to some of the social problems of town life*. Macmillan. net, 70 c.

Relative in its point of view, the Hulsean lectures of 1895; fair.

Fairbanks, Arthur. *Introduction to sociology*. Scribner. \$2.

In many respects a good book, but not completely worked out.

Ferri, Enrico. *Criminal sociology*. Appleton. \$1.50.

The best book for the general reader who wants to know something of the Italian school of criminology; deals with the problem in a large way, and is better balanced than Lombroso's works on the subject.

Flint, Robert. *Socialism*. Lippincott. \$3.25.

Superficial; should not be the only book on the subject in any library.

Follett, M. P. *The speaker of the House of Representatives*. Longmans. \$1.75.

One of the best books of the year; a standard treatise on a subject that has not received special attention.

Godkin, E. L. *Problems of modern democracy*. Scribner. \$2.

An admirable work. Hadley, A. T. *Economics*. Putnam. \$2.50.

Intended as a college text-book, and is used by teachers who have time to take classes through two books as the more advanced work. Gives the elementary principles of the subject, and discusses everything in close relation to the questions of the time. Contains a thorough study of speculation.

Hobson, J. A. *Problem of the unemployed*. Scribner. \$1.

Thoroughly good; the best small book on the subject.

Howe, F. C. *Taxation and taxes in the U. S. under the internal revenue system, 1791-1895*. Crowell. \$1.75.

One of the necessary books; deals with a subject not covered by others.

Keasbey, L. M. *Nicaragua canal and the Monroe doctrine*. Putnam. \$3.50.

The result of long and patient study of our relations to Panama and Nicaragua; original in its treatment of economic and political questions.

Le Bon, Gustave. *The crowd*. Macmillan. \$1.50.

A study of the psychology of crowds—the way in which men's emotions and actions are influenced by being massed; extended also to include a study of legislative and public assemblies along the same lines. The subject is new to the average reader, and this is the only book treating of it in English. It is interesting and suggestive. The chief criticism is that the author is largely indebted for his material to Prof. Tarde, his countryman, and has not made due acknowledgment of the fact. Lecky, W. E. H. *Democracy and liberty*. Macmillan. 2 v., \$5.

Interesting and useful; inadequate from the standpoint of democracy, but fair.

Lowell, A. L. *Governments and parties in continental Europe*. Houghton. 2 v., \$5.

A great book; one of the occasional books. Should be in every library.

McKechnie, W. S. *The state and the individual*. Macmillan. \$3.

Should not go into small libraries; superficial.

McPherson, L. G. *The monetary and banking problem*. Appleton. \$1.

Well spoken of; not known to reviewer.

Nicholson, J. S. *Strikes and social problems*. Macmillan. \$1.25.

Best small book on the question.

Patton, J. H. *Political parties in the U. S.* New Amsterdam Book Co. \$1.25.

General in its treatment.

Sears, Hamblen. *Governments of the world to-day*. Flood. \$1.75.

A Chautauqua book; fair and clear.

Spahr, C. B. *Essay on the present distribution of wealth in the U. S.* Crowell. \$1.50.



A book that must be had as the only work dealing with the question; but it cannot be unqualifiedly recommended. The conclusions reached are frequently unsound.

Spencer, Herbert. The principles of sociology, v. 3. Appleton. \$2.

Vol. 8 of the great "System of synthetic philosophy," and well up to the earlier level of the works produced by this greatest thinker of modern times. Devotes considerable space to modern economic methods, and points out that much of slavery still lingers in the wages system.

Taussig, F. W. Wages and capital. Appleton. \$1.50.

Historically good; the best account of the wages fund doctrine.

Thompson, H. M. Russian politics. Holt. \$2.

A first-class book; one of the best accounts of Russian affairs.

Walker, F. A. International bimetalism. Holt. \$1.25.

Notable as the last work of its author; a very able plea for bimetalism and the best book on that subject.

Wells, D. A., and others. America and Europe. Putnam.

An admirable series of articles on international arbitration; Mr. Schurz's paper is especially excellent.

Willoughby, W. W. Examination of the nature of the state. Macmillan. \$3.

Excellent; one of the best books of the sort ever produced in this country.

Additions should include:

Stimson, F. J. Handbook to the labor laws of the U. S. Scribner. \$1.50.

The title suggests a law-book, but this little volume gives much useful information on boycotting, black-listing, rights of strikers, condition of factory worker, etc., and would be generally useful in a library.

Chance, W. C. Better administration of the poor laws. Lond., Sonnenschein.

A book that tells about the problems of the administration of charity and the great lessons to be drawn from these matters in England under the old poor laws.

Taylor, H. O. Ancient ideals. 2 v. Putnam. \$5.50.

Gannett, H. Building of a nation. N. Y., H. T. Thomas. *subs.*, \$2.50.

A summary of the 11th census, strongly commended for library reference; pub. in 1895.

Giddings, F. H. Principles of sociology. Macmillan. *net*, \$3.

Mallock, W. H. Masses and classes. Edinburgh, Black.

Pollock, Sir F. First book of jurisprudence. Macmillan.

#### NATURAL SCIENCE AND USEFUL ARTS.

Reviewed by T. L. Montgomery, Wagner Free Institute of Science, Philadelphia.

In taking up the list of the books on science for popular libraries one is always struck with the fact that it is made up mostly of

juvenile literature with a sprinkling of books which touch but lightly upon the scientific side of the subjects they gossip upon, and are classified as scientific because no one knows where else to put them.

In the list of scientific books of 1896 prepared for discussion the following are named for special comment:

Abbott, C. C. Bird-land echoes. Lippincott. \$2.

This is not a scientific book, but is much more orderly in arrangement than is usual with the author. The chapters are devoted to special classes of birds which are disposed of in an entertaining manner. The illustrations seem to be from photographs taken after a most sumptuous diet of worms, as the puffed-out appearance of the breasts is far from natural.

Bonney, T. G. Ice work past and present. Appleton. \$1.50.

Suitable for the advanced student. It covers only the ice work in Great Britain, as only 10 pages are given to America. It is well written, but very poorly illustrated.

Britton, N. L., and Brown, Edison. An illustrated flora. In 3 v. v. 1, Ferns to carpet weed. Scribner. \$3.

An admirable work.

Chambers, G. F. Story of the solar system. Appleton. 40 c.

Unscientific; superficial; of very slight value.

Dana, Mrs., F. T. Plants and their children. Am. Book Co. 65 c.

A capital book for young people; interesting and accurate.

Furneaux, W. S. Life in ponds and streams. Longmans. \$3.50.

A most excellent book for popular use.

Lowell, Percival. Mars.

A most interesting statement of the broad, physical features of the planet's surface, the origin of which it seems to the author impossible to ascribe to other than intelligent agencies.

Martin, E. A. Story of a piece of coal. Appleton. 40 c.

Excellent of its kind; compact and interesting.

Mason, W. P. Water-supply. Wiley. \$5.

Full of facts gathered from various sources, and has the merit of being a small volume.

Mathews, F. S. Familiar trees and their leaves. Appleton. \$1.75.

A most useful book. It has very good illustrations, drawn from nature by the author, and the text reveals the æsthetic as well as scientific side of the subject.

Meadowcroft, W. H. The ABC of the X ray. Am. Technical Book Co. 75 c.

A good popular treatise.

Munro, J. Story of electricity. Appleton. 40 c.

A book to create interest in scientific things; simply and accurately told.

Robinson, R. E. In New England fields and woods. Houghton. \$1.25.

Composed of a series of papers written by a



keen sportsman. The book is most entertaining. The sketches first appeared in *Forest and Stream*, and they possess now a melancholy interest from the fact that the author has become blind.

Smith, J. B. Economic entomology. Lippincott. \$2.50.

One of the best popular books on the subject. It is on the whole preferable to Comstock; while the plates are not so well done as in that work, they are much more numerous and instructive.

Thompson, E. P. Roentgen rays and phenomena of the anode and cathode. Van Nostrand. \$1.50.

Probably the best book on the subject written during the year.

Torrey, Bradford. Spring notes from Tennessee. Houghton. \$1.25.

Useful for the list of birds found by the author at Chattanooga.

Wegmann, E. Water-supply of the city of New York. Wiley. \$10.

An interesting historical description of the New York system; its many excellent plates make it valuable to any engineer engaged in the construction of water-works.

Witchell, C. A. Evolution of birdsong. Macmillan. \$1.75.

Treats of a subject not hitherto handled very systematically by ornithologists. The author has been 15 years in collecting his data; the plates are poor.

#### FINE ART.

Reviewed by C. A. Cutter, Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.

The great wave of interest in art which has swept over the country in the last decade has made it imperative to establish some sort of an art department even in town libraries. In setting one up four lines of purchase are necessary: Works of art; Books on art technique; Books on art principles, aesthetics, criticism; and Art histories. By works of art I do not mean pictures and statues, those are beyond the means of the town library; the \$100 or \$200 which one poor picture would cost would be much better spent in procuring 100 or 200 good photographic or heliogravure representations of the masterpieces of painting, sculpture, and architecture. The second class, works on technique, the small library should buy last; they are too special; the artist, if there is one in the village, should provide these for himself. But the third class, the works of aesthetics, criticism, inspiration, works which will explain, excite, develop, guide the sense of beauty, works of which we find three very different examples in the writings of Ruskin, Van Brunt, and Hamerton, these should not be absent. There is nothing so likely to kill a rising interest in art as feeding it with dry history. In art surely, if anywhere, we need the literature of power as well as the literature of information. And yet there is not one of that quality in this print-

ed list.\* For which reason I should add to it three.

First, Santayana's "Sense of beauty." [Scribner. \$1.50.] Lowell, in his "Cathedral," speaks of

"Learned folk,  
Who drench you with aesthetics till you feel  
As if all beauty were a ghastly bore,  
The faucet to let loose a wash of words."

This may be true of the older metaphysical aesthetics. Mr. Santayana is a pupil of William James, and his aesthetics are, as is the way nowadays, founded on psychology. They are not, therefore, always easy reading for the learner; while following the method of his teacher he has not always succeeded in catching his luminous style. But they will repay a little effort with an intelligible theory and with occasional passages of eloquence. The paragraph, for instance, on the part which the flying buttress plays in charm of the Gothic cathedral is the best on that matter that I have ever met with.

Berenson's "Florentine painters of the Renaissance" [Putnam. \$1], a work of what we might call the "higher criticism" in art, is ingenious and instructive, and should be added to the shelves that contain his "Lorenzo Lotto" and his "Venetian painters of the Renaissance."

Vernon Lee's "Renaissance fancies and studies" [Putnam. \$1.25] is put in the printed list among "Miscellaneous literature." It belongs in Art; it is entirely on Italian art. I know there are those who do not rate Vernon Lee highly. To me she is delightful. She is often able to solve the historic question, "Why did this painter paint thus?" and the even more important question, "Ought I to admire his painting?" or "Why do I admire it, tho the critics say I should not?" or "Why cannot I enthuse where so many have been enthusiastic before?" Take for instance what she writes of the fascinating grace of Botticelli's ill-drawn figures. It is very acute criticism and good psychology. Or her clear and eloquent characterization of Italian Renaissance sculpture. It is admirable, and yet it justifies the title of the book, for it is full of what those who have not studied and enjoyed and been puzzled by the charm of that marvellous sculpture will term "fancies." And I confess that in read-

#### \* The printed list included:

- Fletcher, Banister, and Banister, F. History of architecture. Scribner. \$4.50.  
Gardner, E. A. Handbook of Greek sculpture. Macmillan. \$1.25.  
Hamlin, A. D. F. Text-book of the history of architecture. Longmans. \$2.  
Marquand, A., and Frothingham, A. L., Jr., Text-book of the history of sculpture. Longmans. \$1.50.  
Mathews, C. T. Story of architecture. Appleton. \$3.  
Muther, R. History of modern painting. 3 v. Macmillan. \$20.  
Sturgis, Russell. European architecture. Macmillan. \$4.  
Tarbell, F. B. History of Greek art. Flood. \$1.  
Twombly, A. S. Masterpieces of Michelangelo and Milton. Silver. \$1.50.  
Van Dyke, J. C., ed. Modern French painters. Century. \$10.

ing some of the other essays I have been inclined to say, "Very gracious fooling." But it is graceful and it is well worth reading.

I would also add to the list Evans's "Animal symbolism in ecclesiastical architecture" [Holt, \$2], a collection of mediæval stories and their use in mediæval church decoration, useful both to folklorists and to those who are studying Romanesque architecture.

Goodyear's "History of art" [7th ed., rev. Barnes, \$3] is clear condensed, and interesting.

Statham's "Architecture for general readers" [New ed. Scribner, \$2] treats not only of the history of the art but of its principles and practice. Its illustrations are from drawings made by the author, which was necessary because they are chiefly of details, not of monuments, and many separate objects are represented in a single full-page plate. Of course they are not so attractive as photographs or good process plates from photographs.

The four histories of architecture given in the list are all good. Get them all if you can. I have enjoyed Sturgis's "European architecture" best. It is the richest in thought and feeling. All four are well illustrated. Of the three general histories each has its peculiar excellence. Fletcher's has useful parallel columns comparing the architecture of different lands, the Gothic of France and England, for instance; Hamlin's costs least; Mathews traces especially the influence of climate, race, religion, and politics on architecture, but his illustrations are wood-cuts and much inferior to the process plates in the others.

Marquand's "History of Greek sculpture" belongs to the set of college histories of art edited by J. C. Vandyke; its bibliography is good and it has a most useful list of addresses of sellers of photographs and plaster casts.

Gardner's "Greek sculpture" is a good condensed statement of the present state of knowledge, doubtful theories being left untouched or merely stated; the illustrations are excellent but too few.

Tarbell's "Greek art" is also well illustrated, tho not quite so well. It belongs to the "Chautauqua reading course."

Muther's "Modern painting" is not one of the first works to be bought by a small library; it is too expensive; but it should not be long delayed, for it is a book of living interest; it treats with fulness and fairness of the painters of the day and the art theories now under discussion, and its very numerous illustrations, though too small for enjoyment, are a great assistance to the understanding of the text.

#### NEW AIDS FOR READERS.

A PUBLIC telephone (pay station) has been established in the Boston Public Library. It is in charge of a stenographer, who, in addition to ordinary stenographic and copying work, will furnish abstract or verbatim copies of records in the public library or accessible in other libraries in Boston and its vicinity.

#### THE QUESTION OF INDEXES.

CANNOT something be done, either by the American Library Association or by librarians individually, to encourage the publication of indexes by regular publishers? Something which would tend to cultivate what the *Nation* is pleased to term the "index conscience"?

Within the last few years Macmillan in England and Appleton in this country have published a new edition of the essays of Huxley, but there is no index either to the set or to the individual volume. A complete index to this set would be of great value, both to libraries in general and to all students of modern science.

Spencer's "Synthetic philosophy" is another good example; some of the volumes of it are indexed and some are not. Such indexes as there are in a few of the volumes are very meagre instead of being very elaborate, as they should be.

The Macmillan Company has recently completed a new and cheap, but excellent edition of the works of Dickens. Scribner's Sons are about to issue in this country the "Gad's Hill edition," which will be more elaborate. It would surely be of great service to all students of fiction to have a complete dictionary index of such sets as these. A dictionary to a set of an authors' novels should cover in one alphabetical list (dictionary catalog style) the names of all persons and places described, historical events, particular abuses attacked, and other things of a similar nature. Following the names of all the important characters should be a brief description, of three or four lines, in the author's own words wherever possible.

The set of Balzac published by Roberts Bros. or the edition now being published by Macmillan should be treated in the same way. Thackeray, Peacock, and many other standard novelists might be fit subjects for such treatment as new and complete editions are published.

The difficulty in the way of persuading publishers to undertake the indexing of their sets is that they cannot see how they can get returns for the compiling, printing, and publishing of such indexes. If librarians were to take this matter up and, subject to definite qualifications, agree to purchase these indexes, or certain of them, as they might appear, the publishers would see that there was an assured sale for at least a given number of copies. Then if a decided effort were made by librarians to make the first few of these indexes successful, from the publisher's point of view, it would do much to encourage them in the effort.

Scribner's Sons will publish an index to their "Thistle edition" of Stevenson, covering some 25 pages. This, of course, is briefer than it might well be, but it is a great step in the right direction. It remains to be seen how this will be appreciated by the library world.

I shall be pleased to correspond with any librarians who are interested in this movement, and would much like to see the matter discussed in the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

FRANCIS D. TANDY,  
Public Library, Denver.

## THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NEW ORLEANS.

THE Fisk Free and Public Library of New Orleans was formally opened on the evening of Jan. 18. The exercises were held in the library building (formerly St. Patrick's Hall, the home of the Criminal District Court), and were attended by an audience of some 1200 persons. On the platform were Very Rev. F. Janssens, archbishop of New Orleans; Mayor Flower, Very Rev. Mgr. Mignot, of the St. Louis Cathedral; Right Rev. Davis Sessums, bishop of Louisiana; ex-Justice Charles E. Fenner, Rabbi I. L. Leucht, of the Touro Synagogue, Mr. Frank T. Howard, president of the board of commissioners of the Fisk Free and Public Library; ex-Mayor John Fitzpatrick, Messrs. A. Baldwin, George W. Flynn, S. H. March, and A. A. Le Long, of the board of commissioners; Councilman A. Brittin, and others. Prayer was offered by Archbishop Janssens, and Mayor Flower, in a short address, transferred the library to the control of Mr. Howard, president of the board of commissioners, and welcomed those present "to the formal opening of the Fisk Free and Public Library." Mr. Howard accepted the charge of the library, on behalf of the commissioners, in a few words. Addresses on the value of the library and what its influence should be in the future of New Orleans were made by the Right Rev. Davis Sessums, Bishop of Louisiana, and by Judge Fenner, of New Orleans. The benediction was pronounced by Rabbi Leucht. The exercises were interspersed by orchestral and vocal music.

The history of the Fisk Free and Public Library, the first absolutely free circulating library of New Orleans, is already familiar to readers of the JOURNAL, but it may well be reviewed here, now that the work of consolidation and organization is fully accomplished.

The nucleus of the present library was found in three modest collections, owned or controlled by the city, that have now been amalgamated into a single library. The first, the Fisk Library, was the gift to New Orleans of the brothers Abijah and Alvarez Fisk. It consisted originally of a bequest made by Abijah Fisk in 1843 to the city of New Orleans, in perpetual trust, of a property at the corner of Customhouse and Bourbon streets, then yielding an income of about \$2000 a year, on condition that the property should be devoted to the maintenance of a free public library. This bequest was, of course, not sufficient for the establishment of a library, and for a time had no direct results. Later, however, Alvarez Fisk, of Natchez, purchased the 6000 v. private library of Mr. B. F. French, of New Orleans, and in March, 1847, presented it to the city in order to carry into effect his brother's bequest. The library thus founded never received very adequate appropriations or attained much popularity, and in 1853 it was transferred to the control of the Mechanics' Institute "to be held and used for the same uses and trust under which the building and library were held by

the city of New Orleans, the rent of the building to be applied to the benefit and enlargement of the library." The change did not result in the benefits hoped for, and in 1882 the University of Louisiana became the successor and assignee of the Mechanics' Institute, and was duly charged with the care of the library. In 1884 the Tulane University of Louisiana succeeded the University of Louisiana as heir and assignee, and the custodianship of the Fisk Free Library became a privilege of Tulane University. Under its charge the library was faithfully and effectively administered, and the collection was increased from 8000 v. to 15,000 v. On the removal of the university in 1895 from its old home to new quarters in a less central part of the city, the university authorities sought permission to transfer the Fisk library to the new university buildings. This, however, the city would not consent to, feeling that the Fisk library was too valuable and useful a collection of books to be removed so far from the business and geographical centre of the city, and thus the library remained in the old Mechanics' Institute building until Jan. 16, 1897, when it was transferred to the new library.

The second collection to be consolidated into the new library was the public school library, or Lyceum Library, established in 1844 as a subscription circulating library, and moved to the city hall in 1849. In the next few years several similar libraries were established, and in 1852 the common council passed an ordinance domiciling all the municipality libraries in the city hall under the name of the "Public Library of the City of New Orleans." Later, in 1859, the privilege of life membership was extended to "all the white youths of the city," and to other contributors on such terms and conditions as might be deemed compatible with the interests of the institution. For some time after the war the library suffered the loss of many books, and all progress was at a standstill; and indeed it has never been a prominent factor in the educational life of the city.

The third collection to form part of the new library consisted of some 8000 volumes of miscellaneous literature that were housed in the state library. These have been transferred to the new organization, with the intention of making the state library essentially a law library.

The consolidation of the Fisk Free and Public libraries is notable chiefly for the ease with which the consolidation was effected when it was once decided upon, more than half a century after the establishment of two separate libraries, both of which contemplated in their inception what has now been accomplished, and neither of which attained the desirable end until united with the other. The first step towards that end was made in 1895, when the Criminal District Court was removed from its home in St. Patrick's hall and the question of the disposition of the old building was raised. The suggestion that it be used for a public library was made and met at once with popular approval,

and in April, 1895, an ordinance was passed directing the city to place St. Patrick's hall in condition for use as a free circulating library, which was to be established by the consolidation of the Fisk free library and the public library. A board of directors was to be appointed to govern the library, to adopt regulations regarding the use of the books, and to exercise authority. On Oct. 2, 1896, this ordinance was amended by a provision transferring to the control of the board of directors the custodianship of the Fisk free library and its income, and all balances to the credit of the public library, and giving to the board of directors for the maintenance of the new library such income as could be derived from the rental of whatever portions of the St. Patrick's hall property were not occupied by the library or needed by the city for municipal purposes. Thus the handling of the funds of the library was taken out of the city treasury and away from the influences of partisan politics, and the board of directors were made directly responsible for the administration of the library. The board of directors consists of seven members, to serve for life, with the mayor, and succeeding mayors, as *ex-officio* life members. Mr. F. T. Howard, who has been one of the most active workers in the library cause, is the president.

During 1896 the work of altering and fitting up the building for its new purposes was diligently carried on, and on Dec. 7 Mr. William Beer was elected librarian of the consolidated library (see L. J., Jan., p. 52). The library begins work with about 34,000 volumes and cannot fail, under the effective charge of its librarian, to become a power for good in the civic life of New Orleans. Mr. Beer also maintains his position as librarian of the Howard library, and he plans the close co-operation of the two institutions, the Howard serving as a reference library, while the Fisk library carries on the work of a more popular circulating library.

#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALASIA.

THE Library Association of Australasia has published the "Account of the proceedings of the first Australasian Library Conference," held at Melbourne, April 21-24, 1896. The meeting, which was the first of the sort held in Australia, was reported in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for June, 1896 (31: 275), and the proceedings contain much that is of interest and usefulness to librarians. The pamphlet is a large octavo of 66 pages, including a full report of the meeting, the papers read, list of delegates, constitution, and officers of the association, etc. The subjects treated at more or less length by different speakers include among others "Cataloging," by H. C. L. Anderson, of the New South Wales Public Library; "Libraries from the reader's point of view," by Sir Henry Wrixon; "A model library building," by W. B. Tappin, illustrated with plans of one-story and two-story structures; "The librarian and his work," by Hugh Wright

and E. L. Armstrong; "Fiction in public libraries," by J. P. Wilson; and "The decimal classification of Dewey," by Caleb Hardy. The president of the association is Hon. Dr. James Norton, president of the board of trustees of the New South Wales Public Library; the secretary is H. C. L. Anderson, principal librarian New South Wales Public Library. It is planned to hold the 1897 conference in Sydney. In connection with the Melbourne meeting an interesting loan exhibition of rare, old and curious books, bindings, etc., was held in the McArthur Gallery under the direction of the trustees of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria. The meeting was in every way successful and stimulating, and the association seems to have entered upon its work in the most promising fashion.

#### ART FOR THE SCHOOL-ROOM AT DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARY.

ON Dec. 28-31, 1896, an exhibition of mounted pictures, designed chiefly for school-room purposes, was displayed at the Denver Public Library that was as original in plan as it was interesting and successful in result. The exhibition was held during the annual session of the state teachers' association, which lasted for four days and had an attendance of from 300 to 700 daily. Its purpose was chiefly to show what can be done, with material that costs little and is easy to get, toward decorating the walls of a school-room. The pictures shown consisted of full-page illustrations from *Scribner*, *Century*, *Harper's Weekly*, *Harper's Bazar*, the *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Life*, etc., colored supplements from the *Art Amateur* and *Art Interchange*, colored cartoons from *Puck* and *Judge*, magazine or book posters, photographs of celebrated scenes and paintings, Japanese prints, artists' sketches from the *Art Amateur*, etc. From 10 to 20 of each class of picture were shown, besides quite large collections made in schools of the smaller magazine pictures, and they included examples of the work of most of the leading American illustrators. The various classes were grouped separately on screens about seven feet high covered with burlap. In the selection and preparation of the exhibit, and in the preparation of the descriptive circular published concerning it, the library had the assistance of a committee from the Artists' Club, of Denver. This circular, of which 500 copies were distributed, is well worth the attention of librarians interested in using the influence of the public library toward appreciation of art as well as toward appreciation of books. It sets forth briefly the essentials of a good picture, tells how the collection was started, and how the selecting and mounting are done in the schools, and describes the use made of the pictures in the school-room and by the library. The several kinds of pictures shown are also briefly described and their leading features pointed out, and a few practical suggestions are given as to mounting and exhibiting similar collections.



REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT  
OF DOCUMENTS.

THE second annual report of F. A. Crandall, Superintendent of Documents, for the year ending June 30, 1896, was issued in the latter part of January. As the report for 1895 covered a period of only six months, during but three of which the work of the office was actually in progress, the present report really presents the record of the first full year of work. During the year the Document Office has received a total of 486,871 public documents of all kinds, of which 252,602 v. were accumulations from various departments, 31,321 were duplicates returned by libraries, and about 60,000 were copies received for cataloging purposes. Of the documents received 105,170 were distributed to depository libraries, 65,823 to other libraries, 13,580 were distributed on the order of congressmen, 951 were supplied to departments and bureaus to complete official files, and 3581 copies were sold, bringing in total receipts of \$889.09. The remainder, 297,390 volumes, have been assorted, classified, and preserved in the Document Office for reference. There are now 445 depository libraries on the list of the Superintendent of Documents; 253 other libraries receive certain government publications under the provisions of the printing law of 1895; and an additional list of libraries, numbering 623, has been created to receive the publications of the U. S. Geological Survey; so that there are in all 1321 libraries on the distributing list of the office, as against the 421 listed in the preceding report. During 1896 the Document Office has issued 18 "Monthly catalogues," a "Check list of public documents," a first annual report, a draft of a proposed bill to improve present methods of government publication, and a "Document catalogue" of 638 pages. Mr. Crandall gives interesting notes on each of these enterprises. He also describes at some length the establishment of the "document library," which now contains about 15,000 v., and which it is hoped in time may be made a fully complete and accessible collection of government issues. The whole report is well worth reading, and is recommended to the attention of librarians.

## REVIEWS AND CRITICISMS FOR READERS.

MR. A. E. BOSRWICK, librarian of the New York Free Circulating Library, says in the recently issued (17th) report of that library: "Work has been begun on a collection of criticisms and reviews to be made accessible to the public. It is hoped that this may in some degree present the advantages of access to the shelves without any of its disadvantages. The criticisms, clipped from the current literary magazines, which were formerly sold for old paper, are pasted on cards about five inches square and filed away, alphabetically by authors, like catalog cards, each having a written heading including author's name, title, and call number."

## American Library Association.

*President:* W. H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland, O.

*Secretary:* Rutherford P. Hayes, Columbus, O.

*Treasurer:* C. K. Bolton, Public Library, Brookline, Mass.

## SPECIAL MEETING.

THE special meeting of the American Library Association, Feb. 6, 1897, at Columbia University, New York City, was called to order by President Brett at 2:40 p.m. The call for the meeting was read by Secretary Hayes (*see L. J.*, Jan., p. 23).

The president stated that in accordance with this call the special business of the meeting was to consider the reincorporation of the American Library Association under the laws of the United States.

Mr. Herbert Putnam, chairman of the special committee appointed by the president (the other members being Messrs. Dewey and Bowker), made his report. The committee having found that the executive board had no authority to take action toward reincorporation, this special meeting was called. As a basis for discussion the committee offered the following:

"*Resolved*, That the American Library Association authorizes the executive board, or such committee as it may appoint, to take any steps necessary to procure the reincorporation of the A. L. A. under act of Congress instead of under the laws of Massachusetts, provided that in the judgment of the executive board such reincorporation prove to be practicable and to be of advantage to library interests."

Mr. Putnam stated that at the hearing before the joint committee on the Library of Congress, held at Washington, Dec. 1 and 2, 1896, Hon. L. E. Quigg, of the committee, suggested such incorporation, and that the act might include a proviso that a committee of the association should act as a board of visitors to the Library of Congress. Mr. Putnam also read a draft of an act which would cover the points above suggested.

The report of the committee was accepted.

After discussion, in which Messrs. Baker, Soule, Flint, Skinner, and Miss Kelso took part, Mr. Carr offered the following substitute motion as an amendment:

"*Resolved*, That the executive board take under consideration the matter of procuring reincorporation, and report thereon to the coming annual meeting of the A. L. A."

After further remarks by Messrs. Flint, Nelson, Putnam, and Bowker, all in favor of the amendment, Mr. Carr's substitute was carried.

This concluded the official business of the meeting, which had been called only for the consideration of reincorporation.

Mr. Nelson reported that the proceedings of the Cleveland conference would probably be issued by March 1.

Adjourned at 4:07.

GARDNER M. JONES, *Recorder*.



A. L. A. SPECIAL MEETING: ATTENDANCE  
REGISTER.

\*preceding name indicates non-members of A. L. A.

Anderson, Edwin H. Ln. Carnegie L., Pittsburgh, Pa.  
Andrews, Clement W. Ln. John Crerar L., Chicago.  
Baker, G. H. Ln. Columbia College L., N. Y. City.  
Bigelow, Frank C. Ln. New York Society L., N. Y. City.  
\*Billings, J. S. Ln. New York P. L., N. Y. City.  
Bowker, R. R. LIBRARY JOURNAL, N. Y. City.  
Brainerd, Helen E. Cataloger Columbia College L., N. Y. City.  
Brett, W. H. Ln. P. L., Cleveland, O.  
Browne, Nina E. Ln. Library Bureau, As. Secretary A. L. A. Publishing Section, Boston, Mass.  
Carr, Henry J. Ln. P. L., Scranton, Pa.  
\*Collar, Mildred A. Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Eames, Wilberforce. Ln. Lenox L., N. Y. City.  
\*Farman, Mary E. As. P. L., Newark, N. J.  
Flint, Weston. Washington, D. C.  
Haines, Helen E. LIBRARY JOURNAL, N. Y. City.  
Haines, Martha B. As. P. L., Newark, N. J.  
Hayes, Rutherford P. State Library Commissioner, Columbus, O.  
Herzog, Alfred C. Ln. P. L., Bayonne, N. J.  
Hes, G. Journalist, N. Y. City.  
Jones, Gardner M. Ln. P. L., Salem, Mass.  
Kates, Clarence S. F. L., Philadelphia.  
Kelso, Tessa L. Ex-Ln., with Charles Scribner's Sons, N. Y. City.  
Lemcke, E., of Lemcke & Buechner, N. Y. City.  
Lowenstein, Leon B. Memphis, Tenn.  
Martins, Charlotte. As. Ln. Princeton Univ. L., Princeton, N. J.  
Merrill, E. B. Ln. Assoc. of the Bar, N. Y. City.  
Montgomery, T. L. Ln. Wagner Free Institute of Science, Philadelphia.  
Moore, Annie C. As. Pratt Institute F. L., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Nelson, C. Alexander. Deputy Ln. Columbia College L., N. Y. City.  
Nolan, E. J. Ln. Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.  
\*Ogden, Lucy. As. P. L., Newark, N. J.  
Plummer, Mary W. Ln. Pratt Institute F. L., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Prescott, Harriet B. Cataloger Columbia College L., N. Y. City.  
Putnam, Herbert. Ln. P. L., Boston, Mass.  
Rathbone, Josephine A. As. Pratt Institute F. L., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Richardson, Ernest C. Ln. Princeton Univ. L., Princeton, N. J.  
Skinner, James A. Ln. N. Y. State Teachers' L., Albany, N. Y.  
Solberg, Thorvald, with Boston Book Co., Boston, Mass.

Soule, C. C. Trustee P. L., Brookline, Mass.  
Stetson, Willis K. Ln. P. L., New Haven, Ct.  
Stevens, W. F. Ln. Railroad Y. M. C. A. L., N. Y. City.  
Stonelake, Isola P. As. P. L., Newark, N. J.  
Thomson, J. Ln. F. L., Philadelphia, Pa.  
\*Tobitt, Edith. Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Underhill, Adelaide. Ref. Ln. Vassar College L., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.  
Van Hoesenberg, Alma R. As. Ln. Washington Heights L., N. Y.  
Van Zandt, Margaret. As. Columbia College L., N. Y. City.  
Wing, J. N., with Charles Scribner's Sons, N. Y. City.  
Winer, Beatrice. As. Ln. P. L., Newark, N. J.

THE QUESTION OF REINCORPORATION.

Mr. Herbert Putnam, chairman of the committee appointed to consider reincorporation, makes the following statement of his views on the matter:

I was one of those who last December favored immediate action looking to the reincorporation of the A. L. A. under United States laws; I signed the call for the special meeting of the A. L. A. held on Feb. 6; and I nevertheless favored the postponement involved in the vote passed at that meeting.

1. The advantages of a national charter for the A. L. A. are as clear to me now as they were two months ago, e.g. A national standing. Headquarters in Washington. Advantages to the association similar to those secured to the American Historical Association by its federal charter. Possible advantages to federal interests similar to those secured to federal interests by the charter of the National Academy of Sciences.

Why should *not* a national association be incorporated under national laws?

2. Congress is reluctant to grant such special charters. It seemed to me, therefore, wise to take advantage of Mr. Quigg's offer to introduce the bill, and to take advantage of it while his interest was fresh.

The meeting of the A. L. A. had to be notified 30 days in advance, so that the call had to be issued hastily in order to bring the date before the adjournment of Congress.

But

3. I had not favored final action by the Association without a definite assurance in writing on the part of Mr. Quigg and the joint committee on the library of a continued interest in the enterprise and readiness to secure passage of the bill.

4. At the date of the meeting such assurance, though requested, had not reached us.

On the other hand, the original suggestion for the reincorporation of the A. L. A. was coupled with a suggestion that it should undertake a service in the way of visitation of the national library. This suggestion also was advanced by Mr. Quigg. I did not and do not see why the Association should decline to render such a service, provided the Library of Con-

gress be a national library, whose administration is a matter of national concern, and provided the A. L. A. be the best representative of the experience and judgment of the library profession of the United States and of the interests represented in the libraries of the United States.

But such a service was not to be volunteered. It should be rendered only upon a request on the part of the authorities at Washington, explicit, formally expressed, and cordially supported by the librarians at Washington.

Down to the date of the meeting such a request in such form had not been received. On Feb. 6 I could not, therefore, vote for any bill with a provision for visitation.

I had also intimation that certain prominent members of the A. L. A. felt that the reincorporation could not be applied for at this time without suggesting an ulterior motive of visitation.

Though still disposed to favor the reincorporation for the advantages to be secured as indicated above, I favored the postponement of the application until it could be made with the general approval of members of the A. L. A., with no misconception of its motive, with adequate consideration as to details, and with reasonable assurance that it would meet with success.

HERBERT PUTNAM.

FEB. 8, 1897.

Mr. Hayes and Mr. Bowker also desire to express their approval of Mr. Putnam's statement and their endorsement of the views there set forth.

#### PROPOSED A. L. A. PROPAGANDA APPROPRIATION.

PREVIOUS to the special meeting the following circular was issued by Mr. J. C. Dana to members of the A. L. A. and to the various library associations:

"To the Special Meeting of the American Library Association, Feb. 6, 1897, New York City.

"It is very important that the membership of the A. L. A. be increased. A thousand librarians, library assistants, and persons interested in libraries, can easily be found who, by joining the association, will add to its efficiency and to their own enthusiasm and effectiveness. An association of 1000 members can speak with more authority and can do more to promote the library spirit and to dignify the library profession than can one of 400 or 500. I hereby urge such members of the association as may be gathered in special session on Feb. 6 to adopt a suitable resolution expressing their desire that the proper officials notify the secretary of the association, Mr. Rutherford P. Hayes, that he may spend \$500 from available funds of the association in the next few months in such propaganda work for the association as to him and the president seem advisable. This money would be expended in securing the presence at state and city library association meetings either of Mr. Hayes himself, or of some other able and popular representative of A. L. A. interests, in securing the publication in proper journals of articles telling of the aims of the association, and in the distribution by means of periodical literature, or circulars,

or letters, of such reading-matter as may encourage the growth of the library spirit, and in other like ways—and always in securing new members."

The matter presented in the circular was, however, necessarily deferred for action till the annual conference, as it was not embodied in the call issued for the special meeting, and was therefore out of order, under section 19 of the constitution of the A. L. A.

#### HANDBOOK.

THE A. L. A. Handbook for 1897 has been published, and copies may be obtained by addressing the secretary, R. P. Hayes, State Library, Columbus, O. Every member should have copies of the "Handbook," not only for reference but for distribution. The new edition is modelled closely upon that of 1894, but brings the record of library matters up to January, 1897. The full printed list of members of the A. L. A., brought up to the same date, will be generally welcomed. Another useful feature is the list of library associations, which, however, does not include the Western Pennsylvania Library Association or the new Travelling Library Association of North Wisconsin. A list of state library commissions and a short tabulated statement of the library laws of the different states would have been useful features, and might well be embodied in future editions.

#### State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: PUBLIC LIBRARIES DIVISION, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Free Library, Rutland.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: Miss L. E. Stearns, secretary, Public Library, Milwaukee.

#### State Library Associations.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.

President: J. C. Rowell, University of California, Berkeley.

Secretary: A. M. Jellison, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

Treasurer: A. J. Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

THE annual meeting of the association was held Jan. 8 at the Mechanics' Institute. President Rowell presided, and in a brief address reviewed the work of the association for the year. He dwelt in particular on the good accomplished in bringing the librarians into closer and more cordial relations, and outlined what might be accomplished in the future.

Professor William Dallam Armes, of the University of California, read an extended paper on the "Plantin Press and Museum of Antwerp," in which he described the many beauties of that unique repository, illustrating it with many photographs and sketches.

Mr. Kimball made a short address, in which he showed the importance of state library commissions, and urged the association to use its influence toward establishing one for California.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That the publishers of *Harper's Weekly*, *Scribner's Magazine*, *Review of Reviews*, and of all other periodicals be earnestly requested to regularly forward to libraries and subscribers title-page, table of contents, or index for each volume with the concluding number of the same, or, in the case of weeklies, as soon as possible thereafter."

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary*.

#### COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: John Parsons, Public Library, Denver.

*Secretary*: Herbert E. Richie, City Library, Denver.

*Treasurer*: A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Colorado Library Association was called to order at 8 p.m. on Friday evening, Jan. 15, in the Chamber of Commerce, by President Whitaker.

Preceding the regular papers on the program and under the head of miscellaneous business the association decided to take some action regarding the appointment of a state library commission. There is now before the state legislature a bill introduced by the association providing for such appointment, and the association decided that after conferring with the governor and learning whether a suggestion would be agreeable or not, it would be desirable to have the executive committee send a list of 15 names to each member of the association, from which they should select eight names to be submitted to the governor, with a recommendation that he appoint the commission of five members from that list, providing the bill passes.

The association also endorsed a petition urging the passage of the bill now before Congress which relates to the printing and distribution of public documents.

The first number on the program, "Book printing," by Mr. J. Harry Carson, was then heard. Mr. Carson had all necessary exhibits for illustrating his talk, and the audience had a very good idea of the operation of the printing office when he finished. Mr. Carson went into detail and described the making up of a 32-page form and the folding of the paper. He also showed the various kinds of type and a variety of cuts and half-tones, explaining the manner of making and using each.

Mr. A. T. Bowen then talked on "Binding." He had with him a selection of the tools of his trade, and explained bookbinding in detail, giving practical illustrations of sewing, using several different methods; and also showed the methods of fastening on the case or covers.

H. E. RICHIE, *Secretary*.

#### CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Frank B. Gay, Watkinson Library, Hartford.

*Secretary*: Miss Angeline Scott, Public Library, South Norwalk.

*Treasurer*: Miss Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain Institute, New Britain.

#### JOINT MEETING WITH NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATIONS.

THE sixth annual meeting of the Connecticut Library Association and the second union meeting of the library associations of the New England states was held in the hall of the Connecticut Historical Society, Wadsworth Athenaeum, Feb. 3.

The morning session, held at 11 o'clock, was a business meeting of the Connecticut Library Association, at which the usual reports were read and accepted. An invitation from the Scoville Memorial Library, Salisbury, to hold the May meeting with them was referred to the executive board. The following officers were elected: President, Frank B. Gay, Hartford; Vice-presidents, Frederic Bill, Groton, Isabella Eldridge, Norfolk, Frederick Hurd, Bridgeport, Ellen Spencer, Naugatuck, Mrs. Donald T. Warner, Salisbury; Secretary, Angeline Scott, South Norwalk; Assistant secretary, Josephine S. Heydrick, Southport; Treasurer, Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain.

At 1:30 the Massachusetts Library Club held a business meeting.

The union session, at 2 p.m., opened with a large attendance, representatives being present from all the New England states except Maine. Mr. W. K. Stetson, president of the Connecticut Library Association, introduced Hon. James G. Batterson, vice-president of the Wadsworth Athenaeum.

Mr. Batterson, after extending a cordial welcome to the city of Hartford and the freedom of the library, expressed the deep interest of the people in the importance of the duties of a librarian. To know what books to read, how to read them, and where to find them were questions of great importance in every community. The librarian cannot control the tastes nor the habit of the reader, but can frequently give sound advice. It is to be regretted that the use of our circulating libraries is, to a too great extent, a matter of temporary diversion rather than mental discipline and useful education. Novel-reading is not to be condemned because the characters are fictitious, for by such means we may exemplify the most exalted truth or preach the gospel of love and mercy. It is true that the best thoughts of great writers of modern times have been expressed in fiction, and the question is how to use these works as a means of education rather than one of dissipation. The confirmed novel-reader is always being filled but never fed; and, though he may submit to advice, he never will to dictation. Established courses of reading will seldom be followed. "Very few of those who read most can bear examination on the books they have read; they

have simply had a temporary diversion — have been amused — and that is all.

"I have often thought that a monthly meeting of the readers in a library, to discuss the authors, ask questions, and submit papers on the various subjects of their reading, would not only be profitable but lead to more careful and studious reading. The selection of a subject for inquiry and discussion at a future meeting, far enough removed to admit of generous reading and some preparation, would lead to a demand for the authorities on that particular subject, and stimulate reading and investigation to a most profitable end and purpose. Give your readers opportunity for questionings and discussions on the subjects treated by the books they read, and you will in a great measure correct the vice of aimless and desultory reading, by providing a point for immediate application. One finds that he has gained something by the moral which follows the plot of a beautiful story; another finds instruction in the sublime art of its telling; and both find facts in fiction which are well worth saving.

"An association of library readers for the purpose of reviewing in a home-like and conversational way the books which have been read might be made very helpful, not only to the readers themselves but also to the librarians and the committee who supply the material for their use. A library reader has been attracted by the story of 'Ben-Hur' to the enormous wagers laid on the result of the chariot race at Antioch, and he sends up the question, 'What is the sum of 120 talents in our money?' No one answers, and the question is referred to some one who will look it up and reply at the next meeting. Another asks, 'Which one of the Caesars is referred to when Drusus shouts, "Who but Caesar hath so talents at order!"' Such questions break the ice, and the discussion on the relations of Rome to Antioch, the grievances of the Jews, the horses of the desert, and the customs of the time becomes general, and all who have read the books are amazed to find how many interesting and important points have been overlooked by hasty reading."

In answer to the call for reports from New England library associations, Miss Louise G. Bartlett, of the St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, reported from Vermont. The association had had but one meeting, as the libraries are so widely separated, the librarians in many cases having no salary, that it is difficult to get together. Since organizing the library commission for new libraries have been started.

Mr. W. H. Tillinghast, secretary of the Massachusetts Library Club, said that the chief question of interest before their club during the year had been that of continuing the lists of select fiction. The report on the matter submitted by the executive board of the club is printed elsewhere. (See p. 98.)

The report from Connecticut given by the secretary showed that three meetings of much interest had been held, and that 36 towns had accepted and added to state aid in behalf of their libraries.

Mr. Herbert Putnam, librarian of the Boston Public Library and president of the Massachusetts Library Club, then gave a most interesting address, which opened with a graceful response to Mr. Batterson's welcome and a tribute to the advantages of Hartford in respect to its libraries. In examining the list of subjects discussed by the American Library Association, the Library Association of the United Kingdom, and many of the state associations, he found a large per cent. of the subjects discussed in the state association to be the same as those in the general associations, and suggested that, while the general associations should take the larger subjects of library administration and economics, the state associations might do better to spend a larger percentage of their time on matters of more local interest; local history, bibliography, and special industrial needs, purchase of books, inter-library loans, and especially the discussion of books, that would help the librarian in making his selections for purchase; that they insist upon a higher standard for library assistants; and that they emphasize the prerogatives of librarians. The librarian should be consulted in planning the building, in selection of books, and choosing of assistants. The librarian of to-day has a difficult problem presented to him in this age of free thought, free speech, and uncensored publication. The idea that a library should "deny to the public nothing that a bookseller has to offer," he, though of a family of booksellers, most emphatically repudiated. A library should be progressive in many things, but conservative where it concerns a question of morals and social order, and he earnestly urged the librarians to use their influence in counteracting the revolutionary tendency of the age.

Justin Winsor, LL.D., of Harvard University, was unavoidably detained in Boston, so his paper on "Maps" was omitted.

Rev. Samuel Hart, D.D., of Trinity College, opened the discussion on "Co-operation in Hartford libraries." The method pursued among the five libraries of Hartford he explained as having sprung up in a natural way, according to the nature of the libraries themselves, rather than on a definite plan, and was to a great extent useful in the prevention of duplicates and the saving of money for necessary purchases.

The state library, devoted to works of jurisprudence, would have books not needed in the other libraries; the Watkinson Library had many large and beautifully illustrated books, also many technical works; the Historical Society had genealogies and local histories; the Theological Seminary, collections of Bibles in different languages, hymnology, special periods of ecclesiastical history, as well as theology; Trinity College had collections of pamphlets and sets of scientific works, English state history, and lexicography; while the Public Library supplied the current and standard literature. Thus, by co-operation, they had succeeded in making of the five one great library, sending the inquirers to the one where the



best books on special subjects are to be found. He also suggested that it was a great help in getting rid of book agents, as one could always be sent to the library farthest away.

Mr. W. E. Foster, of the Providence Library, being prevented by illness from attending the meeting, sent his paper on "Co-operation in Providence libraries," which was read by Mr. F. B. Gay, of the Wadsworth Athenæum. The three Providence libraries represented three well-known types which are ideally adapted for co-operation with each other, namely, the public library, the shareholder's library, and the college library. A regular monthly meeting of the librarians of the different libraries was held for the purpose of comparing notes and consultation.

Similar methods for the preventing of duplicates as those used in the Hartford libraries are in use. The fundamental principle connected with the accessions to the library is, that the community as a unit is to be kept in mind rather than the constituency of any one of the libraries separately. One of the provisions of the Athenæum Library is that the librarians of Brown University and of the Providence Public Library shall be considered shareholders of the Providence Athenæum, thus making it possible to add, without embarrassment, books that might not otherwise be selected. The Public Library, in its monthly bulletins, by placing the initials A. (Athenæum) and B. (Brown) against the titles of such works as are also in those two libraries, not only tells where the books are to be found, but helps, in future purchasing, to prevent duplicating. The last bulletin of the year also has 40 pages of a record of books added to the three libraries. They also unite in the publication of a list of their periodicals, serials, and annuals, which has been enlarged so as to cover 20 libraries and reading-rooms in the vicinity of Providence. It comprises 1100 entries, and will appear each year in one of the numbers of the monthly bulletin.

In the discussion that followed, Professor Perry spoke of the Hartford periodical lists published.

Mr. C. A. Cutter, of Northampton, said that the two municipal libraries of that city co-operate with each other and also with the Amherst College Library.

Mr. Fletcher, of Amherst, remarked that the library superstition that a book once in the library should stay there sometimes prevented exchanging books to places where they would do more good.

Mr. Lane, of the Boston Athenæum, said that the Athenæum Library was giving away books to the Medical Library without getting anything in exchange for them.

Mr. Gay mentioned the transfer of pamphlets from the Hartford Public to the Watkinson Library.

Mr. C. D. Hine, of the state board of education, in answer to a question, stated that the school libraries of Hartford were mostly in the Hartford Public Library, just the place, he thought, where they should be.

Mr. Putnam said he thought the most serious question was the getting the book out of the catalog, and that some libraries were growing poorer from the collections of books which they cannot get rid of.

Mr. Bowker, of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, emphasized the importance of sending lists of missing numbers or books wanted to be inserted in the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

A resolution passed by the Library Association of Central California requesting publishers of periodicals to send title-page and index with the last number of volume or as soon after as possible, without request, was read, and after some little discussion a motion was made that Mr. W. I. Fletcher and Mr. T. Solberg be instructed to draw up a resolution to send to the A. L. A. committee, desiring them to consider the question at the next general conference. The vote was put and carried.

Miss Caroline A. Garland, of the Dover Public Library, read a very bright and interesting paper on the "Trials of a librarian," to which justice could not be done in a report, but which will appear in full in the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

Invitations from Prof. Perry to visit the Case Memorial Library, and from Dr. Hart to visit Trinity College Library, were given, of which many present availed themselves the following morning.

Mr. W. C. Lane, chairman of the committee on the trip abroad, reported progress and stated that a final circular would soon be issued with full particulars. The party expect to sail June 26, either from Boston, New York, or Philadelphia, according to the accommodations that can be secured, and the net cost will be about \$350.

Mr. Eastman, of the New York State Library, said a few words about the library department of the National Educational Association, and earnestly advised the executive board of each association represented to secure, if possible, the attendance of five delegates at the annual meeting of the National Educational Association of Milwaukee in July, 1897. As all the associations would have meetings of their own before that date, it was thought best to defer action until the state meetings.

A message of greeting from the Library Association of Washington City was read, and an invitation was given from the New Hampshire State Association to hold the next union meeting with them a year hence, or at such time as the different associations might decide upon.

The meeting was then adjourned to the United States Hotel, where the Connecticut Library Association entertained its guests at supper, about 150 being seated at the table.

An informal reception was held in the evening at the Wadsworth Athenæum, with an exhibition of engravings and prints illustrating the Stuarts of England, newspaper prints, scrap-books, etc., in the Public Library, and the treasures of the Historical Society. Charles Dudley Warner, who was to have given the evening address, was prevented by illness from so doing.

MARY A. RICHARDSON, *Secretary*.



## ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Col. J. W. Thompson, Public Library, Evanston.

*Secretary:* Miss Ange V. Milner, State Normal College, Normal.

*Treasurer:* P. F. Bicknell, University of Illinois, Champaign.

On Jan. 20, 1897, the Illinois State Library Association convened at the state house, in Springfield, Ill., for the annual meeting. It was principally a business meeting. The reports of the various officers were read and approved. The following resolution was adopted by a rising vote:

*Whereas*, Miss Evva L. Moore, secretary of the Illinois State Library Association, has rendered most efficient and valuable service in the discharge of the duties of her office during the past year, and has labored unceasingly and indefatigably to forward the interests of the association, in all ways within her power, and

*Whereas*, It is learned with deep regret that her professional duties will render it impossible for her to accept a re-nomination; therefore be it

*Resolved*, By the Illinois State Library Association, in annual convention assembled, that Miss Moore's services in its behalf be and hereby are most gratefully acknowledged, and the necessity under which she finds herself of declining re-nomination be and hereby is most sincerely regretted; and be it further

*Resolved*, That these resolutions be spread upon the permanent records of the association, and a copy of the same forwarded to Miss Moore by the secretary presently to be elected.

The following officers were elected: President, Col. J. W. Thompson, president public library board, Evanston; Vice-Presidents, E. S. Willcox, librarian Peoria Public Library, and G. B. Melaney, Library Bureau, Chicago; Secretary, Miss Ange V. Milner, librarian Illinois State Normal College, Normal; Treasurer, P. F. Bicknell, librarian University of Illinois, Champaign.

This resolution was then adopted:

*Whereas*, Miss Katherine L. Sharp has rendered most efficient service during the past year as director of the Bureau of Information established by the Illinois State Library Association, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the association hereby express its appreciation of Miss Sharp's work as director of the bureau, and request her to continue it during the coming year.

There was a discussion of the steps necessary to establish the much-desired state library commission.

Mr. Dana's circular was read, requesting the special meeting of the A. L. A. soon to be held, to authorize the secretary of that body to spend \$500 in advancing the interests of the A. L. A. The wording of the circular was somewhat modified and then endorsed by the association, and the proper officers were instructed to sign it in its amended form and forward it for the special meeting.

It was announced that the National Educational Association invited all library associations to send duly accredited delegates to the meeting of the N. E. A., to be held in Milwaukee next July. It was decided that the president of the Illinois State Library Association should appoint a representative to attend that meeting.

The meeting closed with an informal discussion of a question asked by a new member—"How is a membership in this association going to benefit a subscription library?"

ANGE V. MILNER, *Secretary*.

## INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss Elizabeth D. Swan, Purdue University, Lafayette.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, Library Bureau, 125 Franklin street, Chicago Ill.

## IOWA LIBRARY SOCIETY.

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

The meeting of the Iowa State Library Society, which was held in Des Moines, Dec. 29-31, 1896, was one of unusual interest and importance. This was the seventh annual meeting of the society, which met as the library section of the state teachers' association, as it had done for the two meetings immediately preceding. For the first day a full program had been prepared, two sessions being held. On the second and third days only half-day sessions were held, the rest of the time being given to the meetings of the general body. The following is the program in full:

TUESDAY, DEC. 29.—*First session.*—Enrollment of members.

Reports of secretary and treasurer.

Reports of committees.

History of library work in Iowa—W. H. Johnston, president board of trustees, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Second session.*—Advantages of a state library commission—W. P. Payne, president board of trustees, Public Library, Nevada.

How to select and purchase books—Elizabeth Peterson, librarian Public Library, Council Bluffs.

The proper relation between the library and the public—Mrs. Rosa Oberholtzer, librarian Public Library, Sioux City.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 30.—*Third session.*—Care and use of public documents. J. R. Orwig, first assistant, State Library, Des Moines.

Cataloging—Abbie R. Knapp, cataloger Public Library, Des Moines.

THURSDAY, DEC. 31.—*Fourth session.*—Reports of committees.

Election of officers.

Value of a public library to a community—Mrs. M. P. Scheeler, librarian Public Library, Marshalltown.

General questions and discussions.

The subjects of the papers had been chosen with the combined purpose of stimulating interest and giving practical information. Each topic had received careful treatment by the person to whom it had been assigned, and each paper was followed by a discussion which developed its helpful points.

The paper upon the "History of library work in Iowa" traced the development of libraries in the state, including the state library, state university library, Iowa historical department, various association libraries, and the many free public libraries which have been established throughout the state, showing how the work has developed from small beginnings.

Mr. Payne, in presenting "The advantages of a state library commission," set forth the benefits to be derived from a centralization of library interests and the consequent harmonious development of the work throughout the whole state, and showed how valuable such a commission had proved itself in other states.

"How to select and purchase books" was a subject full of practical interest, and the paper upon this topic gave helpful suggestions as to methods of selecting books in a systematic way so that the library might be built up symmetrically. It also considered desirable plans of making book purchases, the writer believing that the plan of buying from a large central house was, upon the whole, more satisfactory than any other.

Mrs. Oberholtzer's paper upon the "Proper relation between the library and the public" was rich in suggestions as to ways in which a library may be made attractive and useful to the people who visit it, and set a high standard for those who are responsible for library administration.

"The care and use of public documents" is not a fascinating subject to the average librarian, but the completeness and value of the information to be found in the publications of the government were made so prominent by Mr. Orwig that the sheep-bound volumes bearing the government imprint took on a new interest in the minds of his listeners. Attention was called to the various helps which have been published in the way of indexes to these publications, and the hope was expressed that in the near future more complete work might be done in this field.

The lesson in cataloging was in pursuance of the course of study which was adopted by the society two years ago, the subject of "Classification" having been taken up at the meeting of last year. Blackboard illustration was used to show cataloging methods in detail, and various books were provided, the cataloging of which served as an object lesson.

The paper upon the "Value of a public library to a community" emphasized the civic and economic value to the community at large, as well as the recreative and educational one to the individual. Attention was called to the fact that libraries are always classed with churches, schools, and business and industrial institutions as elements in the life of a community which aid in its development and attract citizens of the most desirable class.

One important result of the meeting of the society was its decision to withdraw from the connection which it has for two years past held with the teachers' association, and maintain an independent organization. It is the belief of a majority of the members that the organization will be strengthened and have a better growth if the library society meets independently, and at some other date than that of the regular meeting of the teachers' association. The society will therefore soon become an incorporated body, the following members having been appointed a committee to draft articles of incorporation: C. H. Gatch, president board

of trustees, Des Moines Public Library; Mrs. Lana H. Cope, state librarian; J. W. Rich, librarian state university, Iowa City.

The next meeting will be held in Des Moines, the time to be fixed by an executive committee composed of the president and secretary *ex-officio*; Mary Cassidy, librarian Public Library, Winterset; Jennie Carpenter, librarian Drake University, Des Moines; and J. W. Rich. Mr. Rich has for two years served the society most acceptably as its president.

Officers for the year 1897 were elected as follows: President, W. H. Johnston; Vice-president, W. P. Payne; Secretary, Ella M. McLoney; Treasurer, Mrs. Lana H. Cope.

An earnest attempt is to be made to secure a library commission for Iowa. An extra session of the legislature will be held the present winter, but as it is called for the special purpose of revising the code it is possible that no other legislation will be taken up. There is some hope, however, that the matter of a library commission may receive attention.

ELLA M. McLONEY, *Secretary*.

#### MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Secretary*: Miss H. C. Fernald, State College, Orono.

*Treasurer*: Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

#### MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President*: Herbert Putnam, Public Library Boston.

*Secretary*: W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard College Library, Cambridge.

*Treasurer*: Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

#### REPORT ON CONTINUING FICTION LISTS.

THE Massachusetts Library Club accepted, as an organization, the invitation extended by the Connecticut Library Association to be present at the second union meeting of New England library associations at Hartford, Ct., on Feb. 3. About 35 members of the club were present. A business meeting was held just before the afternoon session of the associations. The following report from the executive committee was read:

At the annual meeting in October last the committee on lists of select fiction presented a report of their year's work. The question whether the club should undertake to continue the lists was referred to the executive committee, with full power, but under the condition that the expense to the club was not to exceed \$50 annually.

At this time it was thought that the publishing section of the A. L. A. would be able to undertake the publication and distribution of the lists, but this they subsequently found themselves unable to do, and recommended that the lists be published in some library or literary journal.

The 12 numbers published last year cost in round numbers, and exclusive of sample

copies of no. 1, \$143, of which \$81 was paid for printing, \$45 for expressage and postage on books, and \$17 for office expenses and postage on the lists. Independent publication, therefore, could not cost much less than \$150 a year, while publication in a journal would cost \$60, and perhaps more, since during the first year many readers bore the expense of the transmission of books, which, of course, could not be expected as a permanent arrangement.

Either plan seemed to be beyond the resources of the club, the annual surplus from our income never having reached \$50. Before coming to a decision, however, the executive committee wished to ascertain as accurately as possible the opinions of those who had received the lists upon their actual value as a guide in selecting books, and also whether it would be possible to continue independent publication by means of an increased subscription price. Circulars were sent to all persons who had received the lists—about 600 in number. The circular stated the difficulties of the situation, and asked from each recipient a reply to questions printed on a detachable sheet.

Of the 600 persons to whom the fiction lists had been supplied for a year, 242 returned the sheet of questions with more or less full replies. From these the following results appear:

1. 141 made considerable use of the lists in selecting books for purchase; 85 made little or no use of them in this way.
2. 100 persons, not being members of the club, were willing to pay 50 cents a year for the lists published separately, 77 members of the club were willing to pay 25 cents a year; in all 177 were willing to subscribe; 41 were unwilling to pay at all for the lists.
3. 75 preferred publication in a journal, 94 preferred independent publication, 30 had no preference, and 43 did not reply to this question.

Criticism of the lists was invited in the circular; from what was written under this head it appears that the great majority were well pleased with the form of the lists and with the standard of judgment shown in selecting the books. The larger libraries, however, found the lists of little value as an aid to selections, because books were generally on their shelves before the lists containing their titles reached the library. Yet these libraries were willing to support the lists because they thought them likely to be of use to small libraries. On the other hand, the very small libraries, which buy books but once or twice a year, found the lists of no use for reasons which will appear from one or two quotations:

"The lists are all right for a large library, but we have no trouble in selecting standard works, as we have but little money to spend."

"They would be useful to purchasing committees who had plenty of funds; it is the aim of our committee to obtain history, biography, and travels, and they put into the library the least possible fiction."

"As many of the books on these lists are

just out they are more expensive than books which have been on the market longer. We have only the return from the dog tax to expend yearly, so we do not purchase as many of the books just published as we otherwise might; therefore the lists are not of as much use to us as they doubtless are to libraries in larger towns."

"The books from the lists are mostly too high-priced for us to purchase."

There remains a class of libraries of medium size, say from 1000 to 10,000 volumes, in which the lists are really of practical use in aiding selection; these libraries are by no means confined to Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Of those willing to subscribe 50 cents 48 were from other states, including California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin.

The cost of publication on either plan would clearly exceed the sum of \$50 allowed by the club, therefore the committee voted not to continue the preparation of the lists, and notice to that effect was sent to the publishing section, which, pending our discussion, had reserved for the use of our readers the works of fiction received for cataloging.

It was well known when this enterprise was undertaken that the unaided resources of the club would not be enough to carry it on permanently. Although the support promised for the future is not sufficient to make up the deficiency the committee feel that the experiment has been both of interest and of use. The replies to the circular show clearly that the lists are highly valued by libraries in a certain stage of growth, and that this value is not local but national. There are also many indications that a better acquaintance with the lists would prove them of use in libraries where they have not yet even recognition. It cannot be said that the experiment has failed, it has simply not had sufficient length of trial.

The club of itself cannot continue the work—its income under present conditions is too small—and during the first year there were signs that it would be difficult to find a continuous supply of readers under the plan adopted. If it is desired to continue the experiment it should be the work of a larger and more powerful organization. If the A. L. A. is unable to undertake it, a possible means might be found in the co-operation of local associations. At the time when it was thought that the co-operative cataloging might be transferred to New York a letter was written to the president of the New York Library Club inquiring whether in case of such transfer that club would undertake the publication of the lists for a year. In response to this inquiry a committee to consider the question was appointed by the club. The retention of the cataloging work in Boston naturally prevented the committee from advising the New York club to undertake the work, but it extended to this club a cordial offer of

assistance with the earnest hope that the work would not be discontinued.

We recommend the appointment of a special committee to confer with the committee of the New York Library Club and to correspond with other library organizations, to see whether means can be devised for continuing the work begun by the fiction committee of the Massachusetts Library Club, by co-operation as regards labor and expense.

In conclusion the committee wishes to express warm appreciation of the work done by the fiction list committee, with such enthusiasm, energy, and painstaking carefulness. To the Library Bureau we are grateful, not only for permission to use the books whenever the undertaking became possible, but for other favors almost as essential to carrying on the work.

On motion of Mr. Stone the report was accepted and the recommendation of the committee was adopted. The president announced that the committee would be announced later. The meeting then adjourned to attend the session of the Connecticut Association. The addresses and discussions were greatly enjoyed, while the supper at the United States Hotel and the social evening at the Wadsworth Athenaeum were extremely pleasant.

WM. H. TILLINGHAST, *Secretary.*

#### MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Lucy Hall, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

#### MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

#### NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary L. Jones, State University, Lincoln.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. M. E. Abell, Public Library, Beatrice.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer:* Miss A. E. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

The eighth annual meeting of the New Hampshire Library Association was held in Manchester at the city hall, Jan. 27. It was in every way successful. The morning session was called to order at 11:30, and was addressed first by Mayor Clarke, who paid a deserved tribute to Miss Kate E. Sanborn, city librarian, and said he was especially glad to welcome to the city an organization of the character of the association.

Before the meeting proceeded to the election of officers, Miss Caroline H. Garland, of Dover, read some amendments, which were unanimously adopted. Their aim was to make the president and other officials the active officers of the association, and the report of the nominating committee being next accepted the following is the new executive board for 1897: President, A. H. Chase, Concord; Vice-presidents, Prof. M. D. Bisbee, Dartmouth College, and Col. Daniel Hall, Dover; Secretary, Miss Grace Blanchard, Concord; Treasurer, Miss A. E. Pickering, Newington.

Pamphlet copies of a paper on "Co-operation among the libraries of New Hampshire," written by State Librarian A. H. Chase, were in the possession of the members and a discussion upon the matter was introduced, the point most discussed being the recommendation that towns and cities interchange the books of their libraries on request. Col. Hall, of Dover, the first speaker, was heartily in favor of the proposition to loan the books of the state library at least. These books are the property of the whole people of the state, and the right book has often been instrumental in the development of a great mind. Col. Hall closed by saying that the meetings of the association were priceless and of inestimable value to the New Hampshire public.

The co-operative suggestion was next discussed by Mr. J. H. Whittier, of the State Board of Library Commissioners, and by Mr. Fred. Gowing, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Mr. Whittier called the idea the "travelling library craze which our New England town library system will outlive." It "savoured of paternalism," "was wrong in principle and with no compensating benefits."

Mr. Gowing declared that the needs of pupils and teachers throughout the state could be supplied by the loaning of books, not only from the state library, which was a right, but from town library to town library.

Mr. Whittier replied that this was contrary to the constitution; that one town could not be taxed for the wants of another.

Mr. Gowing retorted that when Manchester was on fire Nashua would be glad to lend her engines and men. Everybody now concerned in the loan idea was on fire, or ought to be. He said New Hampshire was sparsely populated, and many teachers found it impossible to procure much-desired books. "The greater the schoolma'am's disadvantage, all the more eager we should be to help her." Mr. Gowing thought the physician, the lawyer, and the mechanic could argue in favor of the loan idea from the standpoint of their professions or trades as he could from that of teacher.

This live discussion was brought to a close amid laughter and applause by the need of adjournment for dinner at the hotel. Previously, however, a committee was appointed to report at the next meeting of the association on the other points in Mr. Chase's paper which touch upon the winning of new members, the number of yearly meetings, the publication of



a state periodical devoted to library interests, the forming of a committee to reply to librarians puzzling over any question, etc.

At 2:30, after an enjoyable repast, and with increased attendance, the association opened its afternoon session by welcoming Mr. W. I. Fletcher, of Amherst. Mr. Fletcher's subject, "Library administration for practical results in the community," led him to talk in a most charming and entertaining manner. He is not in favor of too much conventionality in library methods and would like to see, instead of the delivery-desk and coolness of employees, shelves open of access and hospitality and encouragement on the library banner.

Mr. Gardner M. Jones, librarian at Salem, Mass., who was present and favored the association by being its next speaker, felt that freedom of access was not best under all circumstances, and that the new and progressive Philadelphia library, praised by Mr. Fletcher for its open arrangement, suffered a loss of many hundred volumes because of its ease of access. Mr. Jones had taken pains to think what special lines of books would be needed in New Hampshire and named works on forestry, good roads, and even cooking, for its chief industry, which he understood was that of summer boarding.

Miss Moulton, of Exeter, who was to have participated in the discussion upon Mr. Fletcher's paper, was unavoidably absent.

Miss Grace Blanchard, of Concord, the other librarian on the program, said she felt the pulse of the public's needs by reading signboards and newspaper locals, and by thus ascertaining what things residents were making or doing, she was enabled to call their attention the next time they came to the library to the works which would be of benefit to them.

The meeting then adjourned at 4 o'clock. Votes of thanks were extended to the people of Manchester, Mayor Clarke, and to the retiring president of the association, Mr. W. W. Bailey, of Nashua, who has been most interested in furthering the cause. The good judgment, cordiality, and managing ability of Miss Sanborn are also deserving of mention as having made the day a success. She, with Miss Garland and Mr. Gowing, have made the remarkably fine executive committee of the past year. Every member present in Manchester availed herself of the opportunity to visit the public library and there study Miss Sanborn's improvements.

At the rate at which interest and enjoyment in the New Hampshire Library Association have increased, librarians, thankful that the one session has grown into two, will soon be clamoring for a meeting to last two days.

GRACE BLANCHARD, *Secretary*.

#### NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* John B. Thompson, Trenton, N. J.

*Secretary:* Miss Beatrice Winsor, Public Library, Newark.

*Treasurer:* Miss Emma L. Adams, Public Library, Plainfield.

A JOINT meeting of the New Jersey Library

Association and the Pennsylvania Library Club will be held in Atlantic City, N. J., on Monday April 5. Two sessions will be held, on Monday afternoon and evening, and return will be made the next day. A public library is much needed in Atlantic City, and it is hoped that this meeting will be effective in strengthening the local library sentiment.

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.

*Secretary:* W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

#### OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. W. Whelpley, Public Library, Cincinnati.

*Secretary:* Miss E. C. Doren, Public Library, Dayton.

*Treasurer:* C. B. Galbreath, State Library, Columbus.

#### PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Girls' Normal School, Philadelphia.

*Treasurer:* Miss Helen G. Sheldon, Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.

THE January meeting of the club was held on Monday, Jan. 11, by invitation of Professor Wilson, in the rooms of the Philadelphia Museums. The meeting was attended by 90 odd members and was called to order in the library of the museum. In the absence of Mr. Rosengarten, the president, owing to illness, Mr. John Thomson, of the Free Library, was called to the chair.

After some formal business the following officers for the years 1897-98 were nominated: President, Henry J. Carr, Scranton Public Library; 1st Vice-president, John Thomson, Free Library of Philadelphia; 2d Vice-president, Robert P. Bliss, Bucknell Library, Chester, Pa.; Secretary, Miss Mary P. Farr, librarian of the Girls' Normal School; Treasurer, Miss Helen G. Sheldon, Drexel Institute.

Prof. William Wilson, the director of the Museums, then delivered a short address upon the proper interrelations between libraries and museums. He dwelt upon the character of the literature which was being collected. This was necessarily confined to such books as "Consular reports," "Statistical journals," and writings which dealt with the production and development of manufactures. One result of the work has been a serious intention to introduce the growth of rubber into Florida. A representative of the museum will spend a year in the upper parts of the Amazon making a study and collection of all that is material to the proper cultivation and growth of rubber. The natives may not be very highly educated, but they have been sharp enough hitherto whenever seeds have been purchased and

taken from the country to boil them before parting with them, thereby rendering them entirely unproductive. After the address he conducted the members round various parts of the museum and gave a most interesting talk on the system pursued, showing in this Commercial Museum the gradual use of fibrous matters from their existence as living plants through successive processes till they become mercantile articles.

The February meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club was held on Thursday, Feb. 4, at the Wagner Free Institute of Science, and was attended by 70 members. The principal business of the evening was the election of the following officers for 1897-98: President, Henry J. Carr, of Scranton; Vice-presidents, John Thomson and Robert P. Bliss; Secretary, Miss Mary P. Farr; Treasurer, Miss Helen G. Sheldon.

The incoming president nominated the following executive committee: John Edmonds, chairman; T. L. Montgomery, Alfred Rigling, G. P. Rupp, C. S. Kates, Misses Alice B. Kroeger and Jennie Y. Middleton, Mrs. Fell and Mrs. Resag.

The discussion of the evening was devoted to the life and works of Richard Harris Barham, of "Ingoldsby" fame. Mr. Lorin Blodgett read a long and carefully-prepared description of the life of Barham, contrasting the ecclesiastical and author sides of the writer and graphically detailing the characteristics of the coterie of punsters and humorists with whom Barham passed the brightest part of his career.

Miss Edith Ridgway next read a clever review of "Ingoldsby's" works, pointing out in detail the attitude shown at the beginning of the present century towards the legendary part of Christian lore.

The general impression was that the preparation of such papers by library assistants before their critical peers in library work was excellent both for the writers of the papers and their companions in library life.

Notice was given that early in April a union meeting between the New Jersey Library Association and the Pennsylvania Library Club will be held in Atlantic City. The meeting promises to be very successful, and the Atlantic City citizens' committee are taking up the matter with a view of making the visit of the librarians helpful towards the establishment of a free library in Atlantic City and pleasant to the visitors.

#### WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* W. M. Stevenson, Carnegie Library, Allegheny.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* W. R. Watson, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

On Jan. 14 the Western Pennsylvania Library Club met in the lecture-room of the Carnegie Free Library of Allegheny. The subject for discussion was "Library legislation." Reports on the present laws of various states had been prepared by different members of the

club, and several of these were read in order to show the methods employed in other states for the advancement of library interests. A general discussion followed. A letter from Mr. John Thomson, of the Philadelphia Free Library, was read, outlining the plans for legislation of the librarians in the eastern part of the state. The following resolutions were offered and adopted:

*"Whereas,* The state of Pennsylvania, according to the last census, though second in wealth and population, ranks last among the 25 important northern states in the number of books in public libraries per 1000 inhabitants, Massachusetts having 1233 and Pennsylvania seven; and  
*"Whereas,* This condition of things is largely due to the lack of progressive library laws, in comparison with other important states;

*"Resolved,* That the Western Pennsylvania Library Club is in favor of further legislation to promote the establishment and maintenance of free public libraries throughout the state.

*"Resolved,* further, That, in view of the excellent results obtained by means of travelling libraries in other states, and the evident demand for libraries of this kind throughout Pennsylvania, the club favors an appropriation by the state for this purpose."

It was decided to appoint a committee to confer with librarians, library trustees, friends of libraries and representatives throughout the state, with a view to drafting a plan of general library legislation for Pennsylvania.

There was a good attendance at the meeting, and the experiment of a morning hour, 10 a.m., proved a decided success. The subject for discussion at the March meeting will be "The library and the children."

WM. RICHARD WATSON, *Sec'y-Treas.*

#### VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

#### WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* F. A. Hutchins, Baraboo.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss L. E. Stearns, Public Library, Milwaukee.

#### NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

*Librarian and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

### Library Clubs.

#### CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.

*Secretary:* Miss May L. Bennett, 1888 Sheridan Road, Evanston.

*Treasurer:* W. W. Bishop, Garrett Biblical Institute.

#### MILWAUKEE LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.

"A little work, a little play  
To keep us going — and so good-day!"

A MEETING of the Milwaukee Library Round Table was held on Jan. 23, 1897. After an in-

formal luncheon, Miss Mae E. Schreiber made a talk on "Library reading at the Normal School," illustrated with annotated lists of children's books, prepared by students of the school. The talk elicited many inquiries into Miss Schreiber's methods, and proved exceedingly interesting.

On Feb. 5 Mr. George Kilian, in charge of the bookbindery at the library, explained his method of binding books.

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss M. W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

*Secretary:* Miss J. A. Rathbone, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

*Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth Tuttle, Long Island Historical Society, Brooklyn.

#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

*President:* W. P. Cutter, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

THE 20th regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at the Columbian University, Wednesday evening, Jan. 27, 1897, Mr. W. P. Cutter presiding.

Miss Frances M. Durkin and Mr. James W. Cheney, both of the War Department Library, were elected to membership. The president announced that the following had been appointed as the committee to prepare a handbook of the association: Mr. F. H. Parsons, Miss Edith E. Clarke, and Mr. Henderson Presnell; and as program committee Dr. H. C. Bolton and Dr. Cyrus Adler.

The first paper of the evening was presented by Mr. W. P. Cutter, and treated of "Printed card indexes and catalogs." He said that the printed card is coming into use for two purposes: for a catalog of books, either co-operative or independent; and for an index to the current literature on a given topic. The Boston Public, Harvard, and Crerar are examples of libraries that print catalog cards for their own use. The co-operative cataloging system of the Library Bureau, now transferred to the publishing section of the A. L. A., was described. Expressing the opinion that this plan had not yet proved a financial success, Mr. Cutter suggested as a practical plan of co-operative cataloging that the central office should obtain of publishers a limited and varying number of copies of books in the sheets, bind them in a standard and durable binding, catalog them, and furnish the printed cards with the books. Specimens of the Library Bureau and Crerar cards were handed around for inspection.

The demand from investigators for indexes to the present as well as the past literature of their specialties has led to the publication of card indexes. Specimens of three such indexes were shown. First, the index to the publications of agricultural experiment stations in the United States, issued by the Office of Experiment Stations in the Department of Agriculture. These cards contain, beside the index entry

proper, a summary of the article indexed. Second, an index to the literature of American botany, issued by the Cambridge Botanical Supply Company. This is rather a card bibliography of American botany than an index. Third, an index to new species of plants, prepared by Miss J. A. Clark, of Washington. This serves as a card supplement to the Index Kewensis, which covers the field down to 1885. The card index to the literature of zoölogy, furnished by an international zoölogical-bibliographical institute in Zurich, was also described, and the schemes of the Royal Society and the International Bibliographical Institute at Brussels for an index to all branches of science were alluded to.

The chief objections to all printed card indexes or catalogs are the cost of preparation, the amount of space they occupy, the danger of misplacing the cards, and the time required for arranging them. The card system, Mr. Cutter concluded, while not without its drawbacks, must be replaced by something better before we can disprove it.

The second paper was prepared by Mr. Albert F. Adams, of the National Museum, and was read by Miss Margaret Dyer. It was a description of a new system of notation, known as the "Combining system," devised by Mr. Adams. It is hoped that this paper will appear in full in the JOURNAL.

W. S. BURNS, *Secretary pro tem.*

### Library Economy and History.

#### GENERAL.

BARRETT, Francis Thornton. On the selection of books for a reference library. Lond., J. Bale & Sons, 1896. 10 p. O.

A paper read at the Buxton conference of the L. A. U. K., September, 1896.

CHADWICK, Ja. R. Medical libraries: their development and use. (*In Transactions of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, 1895-96.*) p. 131-141.

Dr. Chadwick's paper was read at the formal opening of the new hall and library of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty, last January, and is an interesting account of the growth of medical libraries in the United States. A chart is given, showing the annual growth of the seven principal collections of medical books in this country. Dr. Chadwick has been the librarian of the Boston Medical Library Association for the last 20 years.

#### LOCAL.

Aurora, Ill. The Woman's Club of Aurora (Ill.) devoted the afternoon of Feb. 2 to the subject "The Aurora Public Library." The history of the library was presented by Mr. Shaw, the librarian, followed by addresses from Miss Katherine L. Sharp, Chicago, Ill., Miss Frances Le Baron, Elgin, Ill., and Miss L. E. Stearns, of Milwaukee, Wis., on the various relations of the library to the community.

*Boston P. L.* On Jan. 17 Carl B. Christenson, who said he was a professor in Waterloo College, Waterloo, Ia., was arrested for stealing books from the public library. There were found at his rooms 63 books taken from the Boston Public Library, and a number bearing the stamp of the Hartford Public Library. The arrest was due to information given the police by a second-hand bookseller to whom Christenson had offered some of the stolen volumes. The defence at first entered was kleptomania, but the prisoner pleaded guilty, and on Jan. 19 was sentenced to three months in the house of correction.

*Braddock, Pa. Carnegie F. L.* (Rpt., 1896.) Added 1059; total 12,343. Issued, home use 53,065 (fict. 76 %); no exact statistics of ref. use are kept. Amount spent for salaries, incl. janitor help, \$3960.

The circulation shows a gain of 1113 v. during the year, and a decrease in fiction reading from 78 % to 76 %. There has been a gain in the issue of books in all classes except fiction and natural science, in which latter division there has been a loss of 100 v.

A re-registration of borrowers was conducted during the year; 8000 persons had received cards since the library was opened in 1889. There are now 2255 borrowers on the register, of whom 646 are residents of outlying towns.

More than one-half the books in the library are works of fiction, a proportion that Miss Sperry thinks unusually large. She recommends that the collection be more symmetrically developed, and that a book fund be established, to be available between the months of October and May. "After the holidays there are many good opportunities to buy good books at auction sales, and it is desirable that the librarian should know how much money there is to depend on."

The most important work of the year has been the changing of the classed card catalog into dictionary form; at present it is impossible to undertake a printed catalog, on account of its expense. The printing of the library report, which has not yet been done, is considered of more importance.

"In January an index to events of local importance mentioned in the newspapers was begun, and has been continued through the year. This is largely a labor of love, for the benefit of posterity. Years hence, when the history of Braddock comes to be written, the carefully-preserved files of daily papers, with a continuous index to their contents, will be a treasure which the historian will appreciate. It is probable that the newspapers will co-operate with us in the work by printing the index for each year."

The children's room has been made more attractive, and is constantly used. The addition of some quiet games is suggested, as is also the plan of teaching the children to cut pictures for scrap-books, but lack of sufficient supervision makes this impossible at present.

The library has a collection of about 600 pict-

ures, mostly illustrations from magazines mounted on tag-board, also colored "art supplements," studies for china painting, embroidery, etc. These were exhibited for a week in November, and aroused so much interest that an art loan exhibition has been prepared for February.

A weekly column of library notes has been started in one of the local papers, and copies are mailed from time to time to people who it is thought will be specially interested.

Miss Sperry says: "Much of the success of the work depends on the intelligence and enthusiasm of the attendants at the loan-desk. To increase their interest and to promote good-fellowship between us a weekly meeting is arranged in the librarian's office on Tuesday afternoons. At such times matters of practical interest are talked over and systematic instruction is given in the use of reference-books, card catalog, and other library tools. Special books are assigned for examination during the week and are reported on at the next meeting. A manifest interest has been aroused, and amply justifies the time spent by librarians and assistants in this branch of work."

*Bridgeport (Ct.) P. L.* The third annual art loan exhibition was opened in the art department of the library on Jan. 4. It included about 127 pictures—oil paintings and pastels—of which about 75 % were shown at the last spring exhibition at the N. Y. Academy of Design, and most of the others had been displayed at the Boston Academy of Fine Arts. It will be succeeded by a water-color exhibition.

*Buffalo (N. Y.) L.* On Jan. 19 the board of aldermen adopted a resolution providing for the introduction into the legislature of an enabling act under which the city may contract with the library authorities for the administration of the library as a free public institution supported by city appropriation. Immediately on the passage of the resolution it was signed by the mayor. The bill was promptly sent to Albany, and on Jan. 27 was reported from the cities committee. Its passage is practically assured.

*Carpentersville (Ill.) P. L.* The library building given to the village by Mrs. G. P. Lord, of Elgin, Ill., was opened on Jan. 2. It is deeded to the Carpentersville Congregational church, subject to a 99 years lease, held by the library board. The building is of brick, with stone trimmings, and contains lecture-room as well as reading-room, reference-room, stack-room, etc.

*Cedar Rapids (Ia.) F. P. L.* The library was opened to the public on Jan. 14, and the statistics of use for its first week of existence are most encouraging. They show a registration of 528 borrowers, to whom 566 v. were issued for home use, while there were 1012 visitors to the reading-room. This is a most gratifying exhibit of the place the library has at once taken in the life of the community.



*Chattanooga (Tenn.) L. A.* (Rpt.) Added 430; total 5015; issued 12,000; membership 332. Receipts \$1060.52; expenses \$974.72.

*Chicago, library specialization in.* The directors of the Public Library, the Newberry Library, and the John Crerar Library some months since held several conferences on the inadvisability of duplicating their collections, and agreed on the following classification for each library:

"Public Library. — All wholesomely entertaining and generally instructive books, especially such as are desired by the citizens for general home use. Also collections of newspapers, patents, government documents, books for the blind, and in architecture and the decorative arts.

"Newberry Library. — Literature, language, history, sociology, philosophy, religion, fine arts in part, medicine.

"The John Crerar Library. — Physical and natural sciences, useful arts, fine arts in part, social sciences and their applications."

Social science will be included within the field of both the Newberry and John Crerar libraries, as the demand for this literature is so great that no considerable amount of duplication is considered unnecessary. The Crerar Library will be strictly scientific, and yet sufficiently broad in its classification of the sciences. Medicine will be omitted only on account of the value of the collection already made by the Newberry Library. A number of scientific works belonging to the Newberry Library already have been purchased and transferred to the John Crerar Library. The division of classification now being rapidly consummated will increase greatly the specialized scope of Chicago's three great libraries. It has been proposed to publish one large catalog which will cover the books of the three institutions.

*Chicago, John Crerar L.* The date of opening of the library has been extended from Feb. 1 to April 1.

*Chicago, Newberry L.* The bibliographical museum of the Newberry Library was opened to the public on Monday, Jan. 4. The room used for the purpose is on the first floor, west of the main entrance; it is well lighted and fitted with several upright wall bookcases and with central museum cases, in which the rarer bindings and mss. are displayed. The complete collection numbers about 1500 v., though only a part of that number are yet displayed. Among the examples shown are 53 v. of incunabula, 51 illuminated mss., 53 v. containing rare specimens of early engraving, and 111 noteworthy bindings. The museum is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on week-days.

*Cleveland (O.) P. L.* A number of blackboards have recently been placed in the library, on which timely bulletins are presented. In the juvenile department a recent inscription was: "Boys, do you want war stories? The following are now in;" then followed a list of the books available; another board contained this inscription: "Artistic book-making: see

our open racks"; and the announcement was made good by the display of an interesting collection of fine bindings and rich editions. An open rack filled with books was marked: "Old friends in new dresses," and another: "A choice collection of good books, German and English." A collection of books and periodicals relating to horses was a recent popular exhibit.

*Cleveland, O. Case L.* A recent exhibition at the Case Library consisted of a collection of books and plates intended to illustrate furniture and interior decoration. It showed examples of furniture from various periods and countries, and was particularly rich in specimens of colonial furniture; including also reproductions of frescoes, tapestries, etc. An exhibition of amateur photography was opened on Feb. 1.

*Colorado, lib. legislation in.* On Jan. 15 Senator Crosby introduced into the state senate a bill creating a board of state library commissioners, to be appointed by the governor and to have supervision of all free public libraries in the state. This bill was prepared by the officers of the Colorado Library Association and has the hearty support of that body.

*Denver (Colo.) P. L.* The library recently issued an invitation to the public, as follows: "Are you interested in what celebrated men and women have accomplished, what they looked like, where and how they lived? Call and take your choice from the collection of biographies which the public library offers this week."

*Detroit (Mich.) P. L.* In his annual message the mayor recommends the establishment of two branch libraries as necessary if the library is to remain in its present location. He adds: "In my opinion too much money is spent by the present board of library commissioners for scientific and technical works, which are seldom called for, and not enough is used for the kind of books sought for by the average taxpayer."

*Erie (Pa.) P. L.* On Jan. 14 the contract for the construction of the new library building was awarded to Henry Shenk for \$100,397.

*Forestport (N. Y.) P. L.* The new library building was dedicated on Jan. 30 under the auspices of the local Literary and Social Union, through whose efforts it was established. The building, which cost \$1300, is two-storied, containing on the first floor a library-room 20 x 30 feet and lighted on three sides, with kitchen and sitting-room for the use of the caretaker and his family; the upper story contains a large room not yet in use, and bedrooms for the caretaker. The library will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; as yet it is used only as a reading-room, but efforts are being made to obtain sufficient books to make it a circulating library as well. The site for the library was given to the association by the heirs of the Blake estate in Forestport; the money for its establishment was raised by subscription, and many of the fittings were given by local dealers.

*Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.* The building committee of the college decided on Jan. 13 upon a site and plans for a new library building, to cost \$25,000, the gift of Gen. J. Watts De Peyster, of Tivoli, N. Y. The building will be located in the lower end of the campus, and will have room for 75,000 v.

*Galea (Ill.) P. L.* (3d rpt.) Added 751; total 3389. Issued, home use 25,327 (fict. 22,547); visitors to reading-room 32,569. New registration 186; total cardholders 1387.

*Grand Rapids (Mich.) P. L.* The civil service system has been introduced into the administration of the library, and after Feb. 1 all appointments will be made only after a competitive examination of applicants.

*Green Bay, Wis. Kellogg P. L.* (Rpt.) Added 546; total 4993. Issued 40,558; visitors to reading-room 6441.

The library was open 303 days, and the circulation shows an increase of 14,474 over the previous year.

*Greenville, Mich.* The libraries of the high school and the Ladies' Club have been consolidated into a public library.

*Hartford, Ct. Watkinson P. L.* (33d rpt.) Added 1013 v., 266 pm.; total 48,884.

The year's additions included a number of rare and valuable accessions to the departments of history and architecture. "The collection of pamphlets made by Noah Webster were received from the Hartford Public Library as being more suitable to this library; volumes of *Macmillan's Magazine*, *Educational Review*, and the *London Spectator* were given in return, as the public library takes these journals and needed them to fill its sets."

The following sets were indexed during the year: *Englische Studien*, *Anglia*, and *Die Graphische Kunst*. "This brings to notice a great number of scientific articles filled with the latest knowledge, and they have been carried into the card catalog. The library duplicates which had been accumulating for many years were sent to Boston and sold in May. About 714 v. and 348 pm. were disposed of by auction for \$543. Certain books from the Brinley gift were included, and it is interesting to note that nearly every one brought a higher price than when sold with that library."

*Helena (Mont.) P. L.* Mr. Patton, the librarian, is bringing the library effectively before the public through the medium of the local press. He has published several interesting reading lists in the *Helena Independent*, among the recent ones being good lists on Woman suffrage, *pro* and *con*, and Electoral reform.

*Huntington (L. I.) L. A.* (22d rpt.) Added 64; total 3933. Issued 3204. Receipts \$352.41; expenses \$338.29.

*Hutchinson (Kan.) P. L.* The library was opened to the public on the afternoon of Jan. 16. It is open two afternoons and evenings of each week.

*Illinois, lib. legislation in.* On Jan. 19 Representative Bryant introduced into the state legislature a bill amending the library law so as to enable townships or cities of not less than 5000 inhabitants to organize libraries in the same manner as is now prescribed for cities of larger population.

*Indiana, lib. legislation in.* A bill has been introduced into the state legislature by Senator McCord providing for "a state library system in connection with the schools of the state." Control of the state library and the state library system is vested in the state board of education, which shall also act as a state library board. The state "system" shall comprise the state library and all local libraries supported wholly or in part by taxation, and the management of the various libraries shall be vested in the local school boards, with general supervision and inspection by the state board. The bill provides at length for the appointment of a state librarian and assistants by the library board, the former to serve for a term of two years or until a successor is appointed; it outlines work to be done by the state library force to aid teachers in the use of books, through reading circles, etc., and provides for the loaning of books from the state library. The bill, as may be seen, gives a very wide extension of power to school authorities; it practically gives the state librarian authority over all libraries, and it is a curious example of what library legislation should not be. It has been opposed by the state library association and it is to be hoped that this opposition will be effective.

*Iowa City (Ia.) P. L.* The library was opened on the evening of Jan. 20, when a large audience attended the dedicatory exercises. It starts work with 1300 v.

*Kansas City (Kan.) P. L. A.* Added 208; total 1450. Issued 3146; membership 172.

*Kansas State L., Topeka.* (Biennial rpt.—two years ending June 30, 1896.) Added 2761; total 37,577.

The librarian briefly reviews the library laws of the several states where travelling libraries or state commissions are established, and urges the adoption of similar legislation in Kansas. Most of the report is devoted to opposing the suggested transference of the miscellaneous collection of the state library to the care and control of the State Historical Association, thus making the library distinctly a law library and largely extending the province of the association. "This attempt to divide the state library, and despoil it of one of its principal features, has been made with biennial regularity for a decade of years, but each time has failed to meet with the approval of the legislature. If any plan of consolidation is seriously contemplated it is only fair to suggest the feasibility and propriety of removing the miscellaneous books of the historical library to the state library, leaving the historical department in full control of the books, manuscripts, papers, and other collections pertaining to the history of Kansas and that part of the country

with which the state is directly connected by boundary tradition."

*Kenosha (Wis.) P. L. A.* The first annual report of the association, presented at a meeting held Jan. 11, is an interesting review of the work accomplished since the first meeting to consider the establishment of the library was held in January, 1896. The association started work with 144 members, each contributing \$2 yearly. With the \$288 thus secured a library-room was obtained at a nominal rent, contributions of furniture, books, and periodicals were asked and received in considerable numbers, and a gift of \$1000 was made to the association by G. T. Yule. This was followed by the gift of a like sum from Edward Bain, and on March 14, 1896, the library was opened to the public. On the first day 60 books were issued. The library now contains 2954 v., and during the 10 months covered by the report 916 borrowers have drawn 14,801 books. The president of the association recommends that the present plan be tried for the new year, as the time is not yet ripe to obtain support by taxation. He asks for subscriptions from citizens for the support of the library, for new members, and for gifts of books and magazines. Children's books are especially needed. The thanks of the association are tendered to Miss L. E. Stearns, of the state library commission, "for the many valuable suggestions which she made to the management in the preliminary work of establishing the library."

*Minneapolis (Minn.) P. L.* (7th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 11,034; besides book purchases \$3429.42 have been spent for periodicals. Total, "in round numbers," 93,000 v., of which 20,000 are duplicates. Issued, home use 559,053, an increase of 24% over 1895, being "the largest increase in a single year which has ever taken place." Library and reference use is estimated at 1,000,000, and this is said to be a conservative figure. The issue statistics show that 48% of the circulation was from the central library, 52% from branches and stations, and 20,877 v. were circulated through the public schools. During the year 11,095 borrowers' cards and 590 shelf permits have been issued.

The salary expenses for the staff of 46 persons amounted to \$22,743, as against \$22,949 for 45 persons in 1895. "During six months of the year a portion of the staff suffered a heavy reduction of wages. The deprivation was borne in every case cheerfully, each employee recognizing that the city was in a strait and crediting the board with the best intentions." "Each member of the force takes her turn at the reference and issuing departments; it often happens that these rooms are overflowing, at which time every cataloger is needed to take care of the crowd. The increase in circulation and the added service entailed have seriously interfered with the progress of cataloging, and it has been found impossible to make time for the needed inventory of the library."

During the year the collection of antique casts made, at a cost of \$10,500, for the Minne-

apolis Exposition was presented to the library; it has been placed in the vestibule and galleries of the building, and in it "the board can feel that it possesses a treasure in this kind such as few cities in America can parallel."

Dr. Hosmer speaks interestingly on the subject of novel-reading, and quotes Andrew Carnegie's praise of "Beside the bonnie briar-bush." That book was issued 1006 times during the year, a circulation exceeding that of any other volume. In order to lead people's minds more directly from fiction to other reading he has during the year delivered several addresses on the library and its use to the pupils of the various schools, and has spoken to teachers on German mediæval poetry. He now plans a series of art talks to the pupils of the four high schools and six free public historical lectures to be delivered in the chapel of the university, as the library has no lecture-hall.

*Minnesota, lib. commission for.* On Jan. 18 a bill was introduced into the state legislature by Representative Staples, providing for the establishment of a system of travelling libraries supported by the state and managed by a state library commission. The commission is to consist of three members appointed by the governor, with the president of the state university and the state superintendent of public instruction as *ex-officio* members. The commissioners are to be allowed travelling expenses, but no salaries. The bill appropriates \$5000 for 1897, and \$3000 annually thereafter.

*Nebraska, lib. commission for.* On Jan. 18 Representative Wimberley introduced into the state legislature a bill to create a public library commission that shall establish and have charge of free travelling libraries to be operated throughout the state.

*New Haven (Conn.) F. P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending Sept. 30, '96.) Added 4739; total 33,081. Issued, home use 243,219 (fict. 51.4%, juv. fict. 19.5%). New registration 6810; total registration 12,863. "This year for the first time a separate account was kept of the circulation of juvenile non-fiction; 16,000 volumes were circulated, a little over one-fourth of the total circulation of non-fiction. There is a slight increase in the percentage of adult fiction and a slight decrease in that of juvenile fiction."

Mr. Stetson says: "Over a year's experience in admitting the public to the shelves, in fact expecting patrons to select books from the shelves, although books are brought by the attendants when it is so requested, is sufficient to show that the public is much pleased, and disadvantages to the library are much less than was feared in some respects. The fear that much more room would be needed is unfounded, except as regards fiction. The loss of books has not been as large as might have been looked for. No larger force is necessary, on account of the labor required to keep books in order; what is gained in not having lists to look up can be spent in attending to the shelves. In my judgment the plan is a success, and so long as present conditions continue I think it should be continued in operation."

*New York F. C. L.* (17th rpt.) Added 13,688; total 93,681. Issued, home use 752,329 (fict. 308,062, juv. 223,767); hall use 24,395. New cardholders 13,860, total registration 81,523. Expenses \$47,255.21. These statistics cover the six branches that make up the library's "plant."

Mr. Bostwick says: "During the year just passed the library has circulated, in round numbers, three-quarters of a million volumes, at a cost of little more than six cents a volume." The circulation, an increase of 97,878 over the previous year, is the largest in the history of the library; part of it is due to the establishment of a new branch at Bloomingdale (the sixth), but a chief factor in the increase has been found in "the present plan of putting current literature on the shelves as soon as published." "It has been found that many readers have been attracted by this, and that they will even ask to be transferred from one branch to another, where they fancy the new books are to be obtained a little earlier."

Mr. Bostwick recommends that a trial of the open-shelf system be made at one of the branches, preferably the Bloomingdale branch, also that the two-book system, now in operation at one branch, be extended to all the libraries.

The committee on ways and means recites the efforts that have been made to obtain added support for the library—efforts that have not proved very successful, despite the large public meeting held in behalf of the library in the spring. The library now ranks fourth in the United States in point of circulation, the Philadelphia Free Library taking third place.

*N. Y. P. L.—Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations.* The library has issued the first (January) number of a monthly *Bulletin*, in which much interesting information concerning work accomplished and contemplated is made public. The bulletin (40 p. O.) opens with an "introductory statement" giving an historical outline of the founding of the library and of the origin of its three constituent corporations. The address presented by the trustees to the mayor in March, 1896, outlining the needs and proposed scope of the library follows, and the report of the director for 1896 cover the remaining 14 pages.

In the introductory statement the matter of a site is given consideration, and the present status is stated. It is, briefly, that the reservoir site on Fifth avenue, between 40th and 42d streets, has been selected by the trustees for the purpose; the selection was approved by the mayor, but the power to contract with the library authorities for the use of the site being vested in the Department of Public Parks, it was necessary to obtain a resolution from the board of aldermen placing the site under the control of that department before further negotiations could be carried on. This resolution was passed by the aldermen on Dec. 22, 1896, and signed by the mayor two days later; it contained the proviso that the reservoir should not be removed until the water-mains now in process of construction on Fifth avenue should

be completed to 38th street, when its usefulness would be wholly at an end. "It still remains for the trustees to secure from the board of estimate and apportionment the proper authority for the removal of the reservoir, and then to enter into negotiations with the Department of Public Parks for a contract allowing the use of the reservoir site for the establishment of a library building."

Dr. Billings's report is a careful and detailed statement of the work accomplished at the libraries in 1896. Much progress has been made and is now making in the cataloging, work that had fallen much behind and was in a very unsatisfactory condition when the director took charge. On Dec. 31, 1896, the total number of volumes in the Astor building was 283,207; in the Lenox building, 109,577, making a total of 392,784. Of pamphlets there are in the Astor about 30,000, in the Lenox 39,159, making a total of 69,159. The number of duplicates is roughly estimated at 15,000.

In both Astor and Lenox the subject of classification and shelf-location will receive special attention this year. At present the fixed location is used in both libraries, and the scheme of classification is unsatisfactory. A subject catalog for the Astor is being made. At the beginning of 1896 the Lenox had one cataloger, the Astor two, "a force quite unable to deal with ordinary current accessions." There are now 16 catalogers employed, seven at the Lenox, cataloging the collection of local histories of counties and towns, and the remaining nine on duty in the Astor building. "There are now on hand at the Astor building about 25,000 books and pamphlets uncataloged, and at least 150,000 books and pamphlets which should be recataloged and classified in accordance with modern ideas. At the Lenox there are over 100,000 books and pamphlets waiting to be cataloged on a satisfactory plan. The usual form of accession-book is now being kept, but there are no accession-books for the volumes obtained prior to 1876."

Much shelving was added to the libraries in 1896, amounting to 5332 lineal feet in the Lenox and 4700 in the Astor building. A large part of the lower floor of the Astor Library, hitherto unemployed, has also been brought into use. The total number of current periodicals regularly received at the Astor Library last year was 1074, and 350 additions were ordered to begin with 1897. The number of readers in the Astor increased from 85,182 in 1895 to 96,260 in 1896, and the number of volumes consulted increased from 225,477 in 1895 to 236,513 in 1896. In the Lenox the number of readers increased from 9149 in 1895 to 13,228 in 1896, and the number of volumes used increased from 35,217 in 1895 to 55,602 in 1896. The greatest relative increase is in the department of American history, in which 10,711 volumes were called for in 1895 and 27,727 in 1896. The most notable addition of the year was the fine Emmett collection covering American revolutionary history. The list of accessions includes many notable features, one of special interest being the agreement made with the



American Bible Society, by which its valuable collection of Bibles, and books relating thereto, are to be deposited in the Lenox building and made available for the use of the public.

*Oakland (Cal.) F. P. L.* It has been decided to issue a monthly bulletin of accessions, special lists, etc., for free distribution.

*Ohio State L., Columbus.* Under the recent rules established for the governing of the library, books may be drawn for home use by any citizen of the state, under very broad regulations, the board of library commissioners determining what books may and may not be circulated. State officers may draw books by giving a receipt for them, and citizens desiring a satisfactory guarantee or by applying through the public library in their city. Books may be kept for two weeks and renewed for a like period, and all expenses connected with their issue are borne by the borrower. The library has started a travelling library system, by forming collections of 25 books which are sent to any person or persons applying for them, to be kept for one month, or for a longer period if desired. The only condition of their use is that express charges shall be paid by the borrower.

*Oregon, lib. legislation in.* A bill authorizing the establishment of free public libraries in incorporated cities and school districts has been prepared for introduction into the state legislature. It provides that the municipal authorities of any incorporated city or the school directors of any school district not within the limits of an incorporated city shall be authorized to submit to voters at regular municipal elections the question whether or not a tax shall be levied or collected, not to exceed one mill on the dollar, for the purpose of establishing and maintaining in such city or district free public libraries and reading-rooms, or purchasing books, purchasing or leasing buildings for library purposes, etc. "If a majority of the votes cast on such proposed tax shall be in favor thereof, the municipal authorities, or board of directors, shall be thereby authorized to levy and collect such tax, and expend the same as hereinafter provided. Whenever 10 per cent. of the legal voters of any city or school district shall petition for a tax for library and reading-room purposes, the municipal authorities, or board of directors, must submit the question to the legal voters, at the next election." All money collected under the law shall be known as a "library fund" and used only for the purposes authorized. After the adoption of the act in a city of less than 20,000 inhabitants five library trustees shall be elected, at the same time and for similar terms as the other town officers; in a school district the school directors shall act as library trustees. In a city of more than 20,000 inhabitants one citizen from each ward shall be elected to constitute a board of trustees, and at each succeeding election a similar body shall be elected in the same way.

*Pawtucket (R. I.) F. P. L.* The library was reopened on Jan. 22, after having been closed for three weeks for a thorough cleaning and renovation. Besides installing additional electric lights and freshening the interior fittings, many of the books have been re-covered and some classes have been rearranged on the shelves. This is the first time the library has received so thorough a renovation.

*Pennsylvania, lib. legislation in.* A bill is to be introduced into the present state legislature asking for the appropriation of \$20,000 for the establishment of a travelling library system. The Pennsylvania Library Club and the Western Pennsylvania Library Club have been chiefly instrumental in drafting the bill, and will urge its passage.

*Pennsylvania State L., Harrisburg.* (Rpt. —year ending Nov. 30, '95.) The additions for the year were 4882 v., and the total v. in the library is estimated at 122,004. In speaking of the new library building the librarian says "that it is better lighted and has more conveniences for study and reference than any similar building in the Union." He regrets that "the legislature in its wisdom did not see proper to provide for the printing of the dictionary catalog which is being made."

"A catalog, to be available in a reference library, must be printed; and it was my earnest wish that such a catalog would be issued by the state, which would be a credit thereto. Apart from this consideration, I may truly observe, that the safety really of a large library depends upon an accurate and truthful record of the volumes contained therein. The last catalog was made in 1873 and reprinted in 1877, and is useless for any reference whatever. Many of the books then in the library are not to be found, while the whole number was not one-third now comprising the library of the commonwealth."

The importance of a good public library act is urged, and for the furtherance of this object it is suggested that "the subject of a proper bill for enactment by the next legislature be referred to the attorney-general, superintendent of public instruction, and the state librarian." As in former reports, most of the space is taken up by the yearly list of additions to the library.

The recent fire in the capitol building happily did not reach the quarters of the library, which escaped wholly untouched. Among the departments destroyed, however, was the senate library, which contains a fine collection of rare old laws and documents, some of which were not duplicated in the state library, and the loss of which cannot be replaced.

*Philadelphia F. L.* The usual anniversary day celebration held at the library was this year fittingly observed on Franklin's birthday, Jan. 16. The annual dinner of the trustees was held at the University Club, and was followed by a public reception at the library, when Melvil Dewey spoke on library progress, and brief addresses were made by Mayor Warwick, Dr. Pepper, and others.

*Princeton, Ill. Watson P. L.* The library was reopened for the circulation of books on Dec. 8, 1896. Great satisfaction has been expressed by the public in the decided improvements made. The library-room, which was small and often crowded to its fullest capacity, has been enlarged to twice its former size and new standard shelving added. One end of the room has been devoted to reference-work, and the table and books have been speedily put into use. The library has been reclassified by the Dewey decimal system, and a card shelf-list and card catalog are being made. The work of reorganizing and cataloging is under the direction of Elizabeth P. Clarke, of Armour Library Class, '97.

*Revere (Mass.) P. L.* On Jan. 19 the Revere town-hall was nearly destroyed by fire, and the library, which occupied the upper story, was seriously damaged. All the town books and records were saved, and a part of the library's collection was successfully removed, but the loss is considerable. The library was insured for \$1500.

*St. Louis (Mo.) P. L.* The *St. Louis Republic* of Jan. 17 contains an interesting article on the development and work of the library in its various branches. The following comparative statistics were given: v. in library Jan. 1, 1897, about 112,000; no. of persons registered since the library was made free 45,867; no. cards now in use (estimated) 36,000; v. issued for home reading during 1896, 506,596. In addition to this \$1,409 v. and 186,749 periodicals were issued for use in the library. The issue for December, 1896, was 50,530, which is a gain of very nearly 50% over December, 1895, and is six times the issue of February, 1894, the largest issue of the year just prior to the opening of the free library.

A first step toward securing an adequate library building for St. Louis was taken by the library board at a special meeting held Jan. 26, when the board adopted a bill, approved by Gen. J. W. Noble and Arthur Lee, that will be presented to the legislature asking authority to have presented to the people a proposition to increase the taxes for five years, so that a fund sufficient for the purpose may be accumulated. If the bill passes the matter will be submitted to voters at the spring election.

*San Francisco (Cal.) F. P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending June 30, '96.) Added 5368; total 87,727. Issued 440,117 (fict. 30.42% juv. 17.10%), of which 97,977 were issued from the four branch libraries. These figures include reference as well as home use; the home use of books from the main library was 203,987, the ref. use 138,153. Receipts \$57,336.06; expenses \$45,181.54.

The experiment of free access, tried at the Mission branch, has worked well.

*Seattle (Wash.) P. L.* The record of the library for 1896 is an encouraging one. Founded in 1890, it now contains about 13,500 v., the additions for the past year amounting to 1400 v. The average monthly circulation for 1896

was 10,000 as against 6500 in 1895, and there are now over 3500 borrowers. The income was \$7300, with expenses of \$8200. During the year free access to the shelves was inaugurated, and the system has worked well; a monthly printed bulletin was begun in November, and the "two-book" system, adopted earlier in the year, has been availed of by nearly one-third of the borrowers.

*Stratford (Conn.) P. L.* The dispute between the town selectmen and the library association has been settled by giving the former body representation in the library board. The town has for some time been contributing \$800 towards the support of the library, but has not been fully represented in its management. A year ago the selectmen announced that they would withdraw support unless granted equal representation on the board of directors. The association will now ask the general assembly to amend the charter of the library so that hereafter it will have 22 members on its board of directors, half of whom will represent the association and the other half the town.

*Syracuse (N. Y.) Central L.* The annual report has just been issued. The total number of volumes now in the library is 31,145. Circulation for 1896 was 91,793 volumes, an increase of 81½ per cent. above the circulation of the last year in the high school building, the location previous to 1894. Reading-room statistics for the last six months show 18,392 visitors. The Sunday afternoon opening has proved so successful that it has become a permanent thing, the time being increased by one hour. During the week the circulating department closes at 9 p.m. instead of 8.

The librarian writes: "The crying need of the library is a children's reading-room. As I write, every seat in the reading-room is taken, several persons are standing, and more than half the readers are boys of the poorer classes — restless, of course. All departments are equally overcrowded. We hope for an appropriation to build an addition soon. Lists of new books are printed weekly in six local papers. A move toward branch libraries, though on a small scale, has been made in granting a selection of books to the Working Girls' Club of Cavalry Church, and another set, of children's books, to a home library. The home library movement has been inaugurated by the Central New York branch of Collegiate Alumnae, and other libraries will be sent out from the central as fast as visitors are obtained."

*Tennessee State L., Nashville.* The report of the joint committee of the Senate and House recently appointed to investigate the state library has been presented to the legislature. The committee say: "As to the general condition of the library, we are gratified to be able to state that no state library could be in better condition or more attractively conducted, considering the limited means placed by the legislature at the disposal of the librarian. The books are kept clean and in their places, the office is run upon business principles, and at the same

time with the most invariable kindness upon the part of the state librarian and her assistant."

*Troy (N. Y.) Y. M. A. L.* (Rpt., 1896.) Added 1240; total not given. Issued, home use 56,282; ref. use 18,202. New registration 301; total borrowers 5204.

"A great increase in the number who will seek the privileges of the library may be expected to follow our removal to the Hart Memorial building, where greater and better facilities for study will be available, and where other inducements to use the library will be present."

*Univ. of Mich. L., Ann Arbor.* (Rpt. — year ending Oct. 1, '96.) Added, general l., 5356 v., 261 pm., 68 maps; total "exceeds 100,000." Total recorded use 133,515. Additions to medical l. were 643 v., 6 pm.; to law l. 259 v. In addition to the accessions noted the general library received during the year two valuable collections of books: the philosophical library of Prof. George S. Morris, of about 1100 volumes, presented by Mrs. Morris, and the Alpheus Felch historical library, of about 3500 volumes, bequeathed to the university by the Hon. Alpheus Felch. When these have been classified and bound they will be of great practical use.

"Of the readers in the reading-room 58% were men and 42% women. A registry to determine the character of readers was kept during the week ending March 14. From this it appeared that 96.80% were university students, 1.60% were high school students, 1.60% various persons."

*Walla Walla, Wash.* It is proposed to establish a free library in Walla Walla under an existing statute which provides that a library fund of \$1000 must be raised before the library may be founded. The sum required, however, may exist either in money or in books. At present about \$670 have been raised for the purpose.

*Warren (Pa.) F. P. L.* (Rpt.) Added 321; total 9444. Issued 36,456 (fict. 25,576, juv. 6474). Cardholders 1743. Receipts \$1805.88; expenses \$1548.87. The statistics of receipts and expenditures cover only those of the general fund.

*Washington, D. C. U. S. Congressional L.* Mr. Green's report for 1896 on the construction of the building gives the following facts: "During the year the book-stacks have been completed, and most of the detail finishing of the interior has been completed; the work now in progress includes the construction of the book-carrying apparatus for service between the book-stacks, the public reading-room, and the capitol, construction of the pneumatic tube and private telephone lines to the capitol through the tunnel, adjusting and finishing of the wood-work of the table fixtures and desks in the public reading-room, placing the last of the door and window hardware, electric-lighting fixtures, plain painting and placing of the

few remaining mural pictures and bronze figures, the bronze doors of the main entrance, construction of the fountain in the west approaches, and the planting of shrubs and dwarf trees in the grounds to complete their design. All of this work is rapidly drawing to a close, and the building will, without doubt, be entirely completed in every essential particular ready to be placed in the hands of its permanent custodian, for occupation and use, by the end of February, 1897."

As this report will probably be the last to be presented, Mr. Green devotes much space to a general history of the building from the time work was begun on it in 1880.

*Wilmington (Del.) Institute L.* A comparative table of circulation prepared by librarian Sewall shows an increase of 10,663 in the home use of books for 1896 over 1895. The figures for 1896 are 145,562; those for 1895 were 135,899. "Approximately speaking, one-half of this increase belongs to fiction, one-quarter to juvenile, and the other quarter to the other departments of the library. The registration of new borrowers during 1896 amounted to 1778, as against 1680 for 1895, an increase of 98. These figures show what any official or habitué of the library already knows, that not only are more people coming to the library than ever before, but that those who come are coming oftener."

*Woonsocket, R. I. Harris Institute L.* (Rpt.) Added 323; total 13,141. Issued 31,081 (fict. and juv. 20,933).

#### FOREIGN.

*Galt (Ontario, Can.) P. L.* The library was formally opened on the afternoon of Jan. 23. Its history dates back to 1835, when the town was but a straggling settlement, and when, on Jan. 9, the Galt Subscription and Circulating Library was formed, with a capital of £25, borrowed from a friend on the security of all of the members of the association. The library, contained in one or two pine bookcases, occupied for years the home of the librarian, that office for a considerable period being filled by a widow who carried on a little bakery and store in a two-story frame building. The book-shelves were in an upper room and were reached by an outside staircase, which was none too safe in wintry weather. The interest taken in the library may be judged from the fact that promptly on its organization 150 paying members were secured. In 1853 the old association became the Galt Mechanics' Institute, and for nearly 44 years after that it had a prosperous career. In 1896 the town council made provision for the housing of the library in its present attractive rooms in the new market building, and there is little doubt that within a year or so, when local finances permit, the library law of Ontario will be accepted, and the library will become a free public institution, supported by taxation.

*Montreal (Can.) P. L.* The library of the Château Ramezay, Montreal, rich in historical

and antiquarian lore, is now free to the public. Its central site, opposite the city hall, brings it directly to the attention of visitors from a distance. Château Ramezay is one of the most interesting buildings in America. It dates from 1705, when Claude de Ramezay, Sieur de Lagesse, governor of Montreal, built it as his residence. After his death it was used for a long time by La Compagnie des Indes as a warehouse for its furs. In 1770 it was once more adopted as the governor's official home. As such Sir Guy Carleton vacated it when the Continental army captured Montreal, an event which made the château the headquarters of Franklin, Chase, and Carroll, the commissioners charged with endeavoring to persuade the Canadians to cast in their lot with the thirteen revolted colonies. In the vault next the kitchen Franklin set up the first printing-press in Montreal, from which he struck off his manifestoes to the inhabitants. On the defeat of Montgomery at Quebec the governor for the third time assumed residence within its walls. From 1841 to 1849 it was the headquarters of the government of the united provinces of Canada, and in the council-room, still in excellent order, the cabinet meetings were held. On the removal of the seat of government from Montreal the château underwent many vicissitudes, until through the generosity of Mr. H. J. Tiffin it was recently handed over, with its contents, to the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society as trustee for the public. The château is filled with interesting portraits and relics of the early days of Canada; among the names it commemorates are many that won fame in the colonial history of the United States. The library starts work with about 10,000 v.

*South Africa.* Laurence, P. M. Public libraries in South Africa. (In *The Library*, Jan., p. 3-16.)

An interesting account of library affairs in South Africa; the writer has been chairman of the library committee of the Kimberley Public Library for 13 years. There are now 96 libraries in South Africa, of which the leading ones are in Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Kimberley, King William's Town, and Grahamstown. These five libraries contain 131 543 v.

### Gifts and Bequests.

*Lehigh Univ. L., South Bethlehem, Pa.* Mrs. Cox, widow of the late Eckley B. Cox, has presented to the university the technical library of her husband, which includes the collection of Julius Wiesback, of Freiburg. It numbers about 8000 v.

*Providence (R. I.) P. L.* On Feb. 6 the announcement was made that John Nicholas Brown, of Providence, had given to the Providence Public Library Association, for the erection of a new building, the sum of \$200,000. Further details of this magnificent gift will be given later.

### Librarians.

BISCOE, Miss Ellen D., of the New York State Library School, class of '96, has been elected librarian of the Eau Claire (Wis.) Public Library, succeeding Miss Louise Sutermeister.

BOLTON, Charles Knowles. The engagement has been announced of Mr. C. K. Bolton, librarian of the Brookline (Mass.) Public Library, to Miss Ethel Stanwood, daughter of Mr. Edward Stanwood, a trustee of the Brookline Public Library.

BOWERMAN, George Franklin (N. Y. State Library School, B.L.S. 1895), who, during the month of January, classified and cataloged the library of the Saturn Club, Buffalo, N. Y., accepted a position Feb. 1 as assistant in the New York State Library.

DU RIEU, Dr. W. N., director of the University Library at Leyden, died December 21, 1896. Dr. du Rieu was born in Leyden, October 23, 1829, at which time his father was burgomaster of Leyden. In 1864 he was appointed amanuensis of the University Library. Two years later he was promoted to become conservator of manuscripts. In 1880 he became librarian and director of the library. As an authority on bibliographical and historical matters Dr. du Rieu was highly regarded abroad as well as in his native country. His best-known works are "Repertorium der verhandeligen en bijdragen betreffende de geschiedenis des vaderlands in mengelwerken en tijdschriften verschenen," "Register van acad. diss.," and "Album studiosorum." He also edited the correspondence of Christiaan Huygens, and was actively engaged in arranging to reproduce, by an autotype process, fac-similes of rare manuscripts, each to be furnished with critical and historical introductions. This work, of which the first volume—Codex Sarravianus-Colbertinus of the Old Testament—has just been issued, will no doubt suffer through the loss of its most enthusiastic projector and supporter.

HICKCOX, John Howard, died suddenly from heart disease in Washington, D. C., January 30. Mr. Hickcox was born in Albany, N. Y., August 10, 1832. When quite young he became associated with the New York State Library, of which he was the assistant librarian from 1858 to 1864. After the war he removed to Washington, where, in 1874, he received an appointment in the Congressional Library. A few years after he resigned and set himself up in the second-hand book business. From the start he made a specialty of government publications, which led him, in 1885, to begin the publication of his "Monthly catalogue of United States publications," of which ten volumes have appeared, carrying the record down through 1894, though one or two numbers are yet to be published to complete the set. His efficient work in this direction led the editor of the "American Catalogue" to confide to Mr. Hickcox the compilation, on the plan already worked out in the volume for 1876-1884, of the appendixes to that catalog containing the list



of government publications in the succeeding volumes for 1884-1890 and 1890-1895. When F. A. Crandall assumed the duties of Superintendent of Documents he very wisely included Mr. Hickcox in his staff. But unfortunately Mr. Hickcox had been independent so long that he could not easily subordinate himself to the direction of others and shortly after his appointment he resigned the position. A month ago his only son, who had been his close and loved companion for years, died suddenly. Mr. Hickcox never recovered from the shock, and, much weakened, he succumbed suddenly to heart disease. Mr. Hickcox, besides his catalogues of government publications and numerous contributions to newspapers and reviews on historical and bibliographical subjects, wrote the following: "An historical account of American coinage," Albany, 1858, which at that time proved of great service to students of American history; "History of the bills of credit, or, paper currency of New York, from 1709 to 1789," Albany, 1865; and "A bibliography of the writings of Franklin Benjamin Hough, M.D.," Washington, 1886. By arrangement with Mr. Hickcox's widow his business will be continued at 906 M Street, Washington, by his old friend, G. A. Whitaker, formerly bookseller at 941 Penna. Ave. Mr. Hickcox's services to bibliography, especially in the line of government publications, were many and great, and his work will be held in honorable remembrance.

Rood, Osna, for eight years cataloger at the Newberry Library, has joined the cataloging force of the Astor Library, New York.

### Cataloging and Classification.

The CLEVELAND (O.) P. L. has issued special reading lists, nos. 3 and 4, relating to Abraham Lincoln and George Washington; they are compiled by Margaret G. Pierce and are full and well arranged.

The FITCHBURG (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for January has a reference list on George Washington.

GUILLAUME, C. E. The decimal classification of literature. (In *Science Gossip*, Jan., 1897, p. 208-209; tr. from *La Nature*.)

Mr. Dewey's classification is considered as "solely administrative," not scientific, and the author says that "Mr. Dewey, in his classification, shows more the habits of an engineer than a scholar."

NEWTON (Mass.) F. L. *Bulletin* no. 5: books added from October, 1895, to November, 1896. Newton, 1896. 73 p. 1. O.

The PROVIDENCE (R. I.) P. L. *Bulletin* for January has an admirable reference list (no. 40) on William Wordsworth; it gives also a useful index to other reference lists published in 1896.

The SALEM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for January contains classified reading lists on Robert Browning, E. B. Browning, and Winter. In the De-

cember issue there was a four-page classed list on "Evolution."

The SPRINGFIELD (Mass.) L. *Bulletin* continues the "author list of juvenile books in the library," and adds a short list of "Tales of school and college life."

U.S. N. Y. STATE LIBRARY BULLETIN, Legislation, no. 7, December, 1896. Legislation by state in 1896: seventh annual comparative summary and index.

### FULL NAMES.

"Mrs. Alexander." The Osterhout Free Library desires to correct the entry of "Mrs. Alexander's" full name in its catalog, from Mrs. Annie F. (Thomas) Hector to Mrs. Annie (French) Hector. The facts in the matter are briefly as follows: Some months since the Osterhout Library was asked the authority for the form given by it, which is adopted by but one other catalog, that of the Milwaukee Public Library. The matter was referred to Mrs. Alexander, who responded, giving her correct name as Annie (French) Hector. She was Annie French, and married Mr. Alexander Hector, dropping the maiden name after marriage. She wrote under her husband's first name as a pseudonym, and states that she wishes to be known in all catalogs as "Mrs. Alexander."

### Bibliography.

BINDINGS. The *Portfolio* for December, 1896, is devoted to Royal English bookbindings, by Cyril Davenport. There are many illustrations, some of them very fine.

CATALOGUE général des grands écrivains de toutes les littératures. Paris, librairie Gautier, 1896. 158 p. 8°, fr. 1.50.

CLASSICS. Mayor, Jos. B. Guide to the choice of classical books. New supplement (1879-1896). London: David Nutt, 1896. 25 + 128 p. 12°.

This book is a supplement to the work that was published in 1879, last edition in 1885. The portion "containing the list of authors is almost entirely confined to books published since 1878." Publishers and prices are given, the latter in terms of the country in which the book was published. The part of the book which is, perhaps, most helpful is that which is devoted to "help to the study of ancient authors." These helps are arranged alphabetically by subjects: Language, history, mythology, etc. The concluding part of the volume is devoted to serial lists, such as the well-known Teubner series of Greek and Latin classics, etc. The chief criticism against the work as a whole is that to the uninitiated many of the entries are too brief to be fully understood.

FINE ART. The annotated bibliography of Fine Art and Music by Russell Sturgis and Henry E. Krehbiel will be issued about March

25 by the Library Bureau for the American Library Association. In the scope and fulness of the notes prefixed to its successive parts, the reader and student will find aid thus far unexampled in any similar volume. Both contributors have had for years to answer many questions with regard to books. Every important question thus put receives its answer in the pages of this guide.

**GEOLOGY.** Darton, N. H. Catalog and index of contributions to North American geology, 1732-1891, U. S. Geological Survey bulletin, no. 127. Washington, Gov. Print. Office, 1897. 1045 p. 8°.

"The entries include a complete bibliographic list of articles under authors' names and analytical lists under localities by states, under formations by physiographic regions, and under a partial classification of 'geologic philosophy' in which the alphabetical order of headings is, for some unstated reason, abandoned. Under each subdivision the order of entries is by date of publication; but under each year titles often stand in accidental order, and this involves some inconvenience in such a subject as petrography, where the titles of a single year overrun a page column. Full references to place of publication are given only under the author's name. With so many leading lines it is very easy to run down any desired subject. Florida coral reefs, for example, will be found under Florida; under Pleistocene formation, Gulf region; under geologic philosophy, section coral reefs; and under various authors. Errors appear to be very rare, although one well-known name is repeatedly misprinted."—*N. Y. Eve. Post*, Feb. 1, '97.

**JESUIT RELATIONS.** The first volume of the "Jesuit relations," now in course of publication by the Burrows Bros. Co., of Cleveland, contains as an appendix interesting "bibliographical data" concerning the eight documents included in that volume. These are Lescarbot's report on "La conversion des sauvages," 1610; the "Lettre missive of Bertrand," 1610; three letters of Father P. Biard, 1611; letter of E. Massé, 1611, and two reports on the Canadian missions and Indians by Father Jouvency. Mention is made of the copies of each document known to be in existence, with reference to the various catalogs in which they are listed, and collations are given. The title-pages of the original documents are reproduced in fac-simile, or closely imitated.

**SCLATER, P. L.** Bibliography of the published writings of Philip Lutley Sclater, F.R.S., secretary of the Zoölogical Society of London; prepared under the direction of G. Brown Goode. Wash., Gov. Print. Office, 1896. (Smithsonian Institution, Bulletin of the U. S. National Museum, no. 49.) 136 p. O.

*THE Revue Internationale des Archives, des Bibliothèques et des Musées*, published since 1895

by H. Welter, Paris, announces that it will discontinue publication. It has, presumably, never received sufficient support from French libraries to put it upon a practicable commercial basis. Its short-lived existence recalls the fact that France possesses no distinctly library publication, as do England and Germany. While there are several French book journals of a semi-library character, there is no publication officially recognized as the organ of the French libraries.

**SUMMER SCHOOLS.** Bibliography of American summer schools. (In report of U. S. Commissioner of Education, 1894-95, v. 2, p. 1486.)

**U. S. FISH COMMISSION.** The report of the U. S. Commissioner for the year ending June 30, 1894, was published in 1896. It contains, p. 619-706, a list of papers published by the commission, arranged alphabetically by authors and followed by an index. 1934 publications are noted, and those out of print are indicated.

### Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

*John Ackworth*, author of "Clog-shop chronicles," is the Rev. F. R. Smith.—*Library*, Jan., '97, p. 38.

*Sidney Grier*, author of some novels published by Blackwood, "is, I believe, Miss Hilda Gregg, a granddaughter of a bishop of Cork, who was long ago a popular preacher in Dublin."—S. ROBERTSON NICOLL, in *Bookman*, Feb. '97.

*Benjamin Swift*, author of "Nancy Noon," is the ps. of William R. Paterson.—*Bookbuyer*, Feb., '97, p. 26.

*Frederick Benton Williams*, ps. of Herbert E. Hamblen, author of "On many seas," published by Macmillan & Co.—*Authority of editor*.

### Humors and Blunders.

"A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME." Not long since a great news company ordered of a prominent jobber a set of the "Jesuit relations" as follows:

"Please send us

"1 Ruben Gold, by Teraltes, vol. 1."

FROM A SALES CATALOG: Stirling, James H. Text-Book to Kant. The Critique of Poor Reason. 8vo. N. Y., 1882.

THE following are among some books asked for by public library readers, taken from a librarian's record of queer blunders: "Poetical poems, by Lalla Roohk"; "Black Beauty, a little book by Zola"; "The stinking minister"; "The stuck-up minister"; "From Jessie to Ernest"; "A book describing place where they keep leopards on Sandwich Islands"; "Round the red lamp chimney"; "Are there any Manx-mans in"? "Dickens Tootpick papers"; "Any book telling where sheet iron is mined"; "Opening of the chestnut (Burr)"; "Abraham's nights."

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En vente à la Librairie **H. WELTER**

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- Antiquités mexicaines*, publ. par Warden. 2 vol. in-fol. d.-mar. 1836-44, av. 176 pl. col. 200 fr.
- Archives des Missions scientifiques*. Coll. compl. 1850-91. 33 vol., av. pl. Superbe état. 200 fr.
- Art de vérifier les dates*. Compl. en 44 v. in-8, cart. 1818-25. 150 fr.
- BARONIUS**. *Annales ecclesiastici*. 37 v. in-4, rel. 1864-84. 330 fr.
- Bibl. de l'Ecole des Chartes*. Coll. bien compl., 1839-95. 55 v. 650 fr.
- Bibliothèque française* (éditée par Didot). 54 forts vol. gr. in-8 à 2 col. 270 fr.
- Bibliothèque grecque-latine*, éd. Didot. 70 vol. gr. in-8 à 2 col. dont 35 vol. rel. 600 fr.
- BORGHESI**, *Œuvres*. 9 t. en 10 vol. Paris, Imp. Nat. 180 fr.
- Bulletin du Bibliophile* (Techener). 1834-95. 55 vol. 300 fr.
- Bulletin monumental* (Caumont). 1835-79, av. tabl. 47 v. 300 fr.
- CAHIER et MARTIN**. *Mélanges d'archéologie*. 4 vol. in-4, d.-rel. 1847-56. Rare. 400 fr.
- CANCIANI**. *Barbarorum leges*. 5 v. fol. 1761-80, d.-bas. 80 fr.
- Cartas de Indias*. Folio, avec 208 planches et fac-similés. Madrid, 1877. 190 fr.
- CLARAC**. *Musée de sculpture*. 6 vol. texte et 6 atl. in-4 obl., d.-chag. 980 fr.
- CLINTON**. *Fasti hellenici*. 3 vol. in-4, rel. 60 fr.
- COSTE**. *Monum. mod. de la Perse*. Fol. d.-mar. 1867. 110 fr.
- VIVANT-DENON**. *L'Œuvre originale*. Av. le suppl. érot. 313 eaux-fortes folio, 1873. 90 fr.
- DEVIC et VAISSETTE**. *Histoire du Languedoc*. 15 vol., cart. compl. 1860-90. (400 fr.) 240 fr.
- Disertus della Pontif. Acad. Romana di archeol.* 16 vol. in-4. 1821-64. 180 fr.
- DURUTTE**. *Esthétique musicale*. In-4, 1855, rel. Rare. 25 fr.
- Friedrich's d. grossen polit. Correspondenz*. Vol. 1 à 15. 1879-1887. (245 fr.) 100 fr.
- Gazette archéol.* Coll. compl., 1875-88 (fin de la publ.), rel. en 14 vol. in-4. Superbe. 600 fr.
- Gaz. des Beaux-Arts*, orig. 1859 à 91 incl. (dont 20 v. rel.) 900 fr.
- Granda Ecr. de la France* (Hachette), tout le paru. Cornille, La Rochefoucauld, Malherbe, Molière, Pascal, Racine, S.-Simon, Sévigné, La Bruyère, La Fontaine, de Retz, 82 vol. in-8 et 10 albums de pl. Reliure différente pour chaque auteur. 750 fr.
- HOLTROP**. *Monum. Typogr. des Pays-Bas au 17<sup>e</sup> siècle*. In-4. 1868. Relié. (250 fr.) 180 fr.
- Hist. gén. de Paris*. Compl. 28 vol. in-4, toile, et 3 atl. fol. de plans. Ex. de M. Alphonse. 450 fr.
- Jahrb. d. Vereins v. Alterthumsfreunden im Rheinlande*. 86 vol. in-8 et in-4. 1842-88. 220 fr.
- Journal du Palais*. Vol. 1 à 88 (1791-1873), rel. demi-bas. et demi-chagrin. 130 fr.
- Journal des Économistes*. 1842 à 1895. 700 fr.
- *Asiatique*. 1822 à 1895. 40 vol. rel., reste br. Très bel état. 700 fr.
- LABARTE**. *Hist. des Arts industriels*. 2e édition. 3 vol. in-4. (300 fr.) 465 fr.
- LABBÉ**. *Nova Biblioth. manuscr. libr.* 2 vol. fol., bas. 180 fr.
- LEBAS et WADDINGTON**. *Voy. Grèce et Asie Min.* Compl. Très rare. 350 fr.
- LECUYER** (Collection). *Terrres cuites de Grèce et d'Asie Min.* 2 vol. fol. avec 117 pl. Rare. 180 fr.
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- Le Livre*, réd. p. Usanne. Coll. compl. 21 vol. in-8. 80 fr.
- LORENZ**. *Catalogue général de la libr. fr.* Compl. Tomes I à XIII. 450 fr.
- MARTIN**. *Hist. de France*. 17 vol. in-8, av. gr. (dern. éd.), br. 40 fr. ou bel ex.-d.-chag. 70 fr.
- Matériaux pour l'hist. natur. de l'homme*, dir. par E. Cartailhac. 22 vol., av. 300 pl. Rare. 400 fr.
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- MICHAUD**. *Biographie univ.* 2e éd. 45 v. gr. in-8. (500 fr.) 200 fr.
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- Restauration des monum. antiques*. Folio. Didot. 4 vol. divers. (500 fr.) 250 fr.
- REUSS**. *La Bible*: compl. 19 vol. 120 fr.
- Revue archéologique*: coll. compl. 1844-95. 10 vol. belle rel., reste br. 680 fr.
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- Revue de numismatique française*. 1836-90; compl. rel. 500 fr.
- 1836-77, 420 fr. — 1836-68, 350 fr. — 1836-49. 140 fr.
- Revue philosophique*. 1876-95. 500 fr.
- Romania*. 1872 à 1895 incl. Relié. 795 fr.
- SCHLUMBERGER**. *Sigillographie*. In-4. 95 fr. — *Numismat. Orient. latin*. 2 vol. in-4. 125 fr.
- Soc. anciens textes français*. 1875-94, et *Bullet.* 66 v. cart. 400 fr.
- Société antiquaires de Picardie*. 1838-90. Coll. bien compl., in-8 et in-4. 280 fr.
- Société archéol. de Luxembourg*. T. 1 à 38 en 19 v. in-4. 19 fr.
- Stephanus Thesaurus*. Didot. 9 vol. fol., d.-ch. Bel ex. 270 fr.
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